



Commonwealth of Virginia
House Rules Committee
February 1, 2024

Via: Committee Clerk
chooe@house.virginia.gov

Re: Support - HJ 36

Honorable Chair Scott and Member of the House Rules Committee,

We would like to encourage your Committee to move this legislation forward. The Commonwealth of Virginia has clean energy goals that will support a strong economy, job growth, and ambitious climate goals. Additionally, Virginia code allows for municipal aggregation. An analysis of the barriers to implementation of these important goals is a critical next step.

As the Commonwealth clearly envisioned and as we've seen in nearly a dozen other states, enabling energy retail choice is a successful way to achieve clean energy goals while benefiting consumers with cost competitiveness. Allowing local governments to aggregate the energy load of their constituents and procure energy on their behalf is proven to be the most protective of constituents and the most inclusive of all families and businesses.

I led the formation and launch of San Diego Community Power (SDCP), now the second largest community choice energy program in California. In just a few short years, it is financially sustainable, generating millions in excess revenue that are invested directly back into the community, and is providing cleaner energy than the local investor-owned utility at competitive rates. This is a common theme amongst communities that are embracing the community choice aggregation model.

Bridging the gap between the goals of the Commonwealth and the clean energy goals of your local governments, including Prince Henry and Loudoun Counties, and the barriers to achieving those goals begins with this study bill. We applaud your Committee in navigating this complex topic to push forward progress in a timely manner.





The opportunity to help control one component of the ever rising cost of living for Commonwealth families and businesses and to support the economic opportunity that energy choice provides is an easy win. Thank you for your consideration of such an important bill. Please contact me if I can be of assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cody Hooven", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Cody Hooven

Principal & Co-founder

cody@evolutionaffairs.com

