



For Immediate Release
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Sunshine State Voters Elect to Lower Cost of Solar Energy

Diverse coalition secures major win in effort to advance solar development in Florida

Tampa, Fla. – By a comfortable margin, Florida voters elected to remove a barrier blocking the Sunshine State’s solar development.

Appearing to have garnered over 70 percent of the vote, Amendment 4 will lower the cost of energy in Florida by removing the burdensome tangible personal property tax and ad valorem real estate taxes on solar energy systems, opening the door for significant expansion of solar energy in Florida.

Floridians from all regions of the state, spanning the political spectrum, supported Amendment 4 in the primary, resulting in **more than 1.7 million votes** cast in favor of the pro-solar amendment..

This grassroots-supported, multi-partisan measure was placed on the August primary ballot thanks to the leadership of Sen. Jeff Brandes (R-St. Petersburg) and Reps. Lori Berman (D-Boynton Beach) and Ray Rodrigues (R-Fort Myers) who guided it through the legislature earlier this year with unanimous backing from their colleagues.

In addition to the three lead sponsors, Amendment 4 was backed by Floridians 4 Lower Energy Cost and endorsed by a [coalition of more than 200](#) organizations, businesses, elected officials and government bodies.

“We are thrilled that the citizens of Florida have embraced Amendment 4, which will help to lower energy costs and create new jobs and business opportunities for solar and renewables in the great Sunshine State,” **said Tory Perfetti, chairman of Floridians 4 Lower Energy Costs.**

“The voters have made it clear that they support distributed solar in Florida,” **said Mike Antheil, board member of the Florida Solar Energy Industries Association.** “Citizens, businesses, and organizations have come together with a unified voice, but our work has just begun. The coalition to support solar in Florida is getting stronger every day.”

“The citizens of Florida are to be congratulated for having seen the light,” **said Pamela Goodman, president of the League of Women Voters of Florida.** “Now voters must beware of the utility deception waiting for them on the November ballot with Amendment 1 and be prepared to Vote No On 1 to fully support solar expansion in Florida.”

“The passing of Amendment 4 is a testament to one of greatest grassroots efforts in the State of Florida for a Constitutional Amendment. The people of Florida have made their voice heard,

they want solar in the Sunshine State,” **said Shawn Foster of Sunrise Consulting Group, advisor to YesOn4 campaign.**

“Voter approval of Amendment 4 demonstrates once again that, regardless of party affiliation, Florida voters care about protecting a healthy environment for future generations,” **said Alik Moncrief, executive director of Florida Conservation Voters.**

“Passage of Amendment 4 is a huge victory for common sense tax and energy policies that allow the people and businesses of Florida to harness the power of the sun in a more cost-effective manner,” **said Dr. Stephen A. Smith, executive director of the Southern Alliance for Clean Energy.** “Solar energy in the Sunshine State should be a ‘no brainer.’ Today’s victory moves us in the right direction, but we must be vigilant that powerful, special interests do not find ways to limit customer access to solar power. You can be assured that solar advocates will make a swift pivot to defeat the deceptive, utility-backed anti-solar Amendment 1, appearing on the November general election ballot.”

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