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## **Memorandum in Support**

### **S.3203-B Maziarz/A.5522-B Englebright**

*AN ACT to amend the tax law, in relation to exempting the sale and installation of commercial solar energy systems equipment from state sales and compensating use taxes and granting municipalities the option to grant such exemption.*

Consolidated Edison Company of New York, Inc. and Orange and Rockland Utilities, Inc. (the “Companies”) are subsidiaries of Consolidated Edison, Inc., one of the nation's largest investor-owned energy companies, providing electric, gas and steam service to 3.3 million customers in New York City, Westchester County, Orange County, and Rockland County. In aggregate, the Companies employ almost 15,000 employees and pay more than \$2.3 billion annually in local and state taxes and fees.

S.3203-B (Maziarz)/A.5522-B (Englebright) will exempt the sale, installation and servicing of commercial solar energy systems from sales and use taxes.

The Companies support the fiscally responsible expansion of solar energy generation in New York, as well as policies that will facilitate solar investment without increasing costs for our customers.

This legislation encourages the deployment of solar while protecting electric customers from increasing commodity costs. These tax credits will support the growth of the solar industry in the state, and encourage greater investment in solar energy systems by enabling more customers to take advantage of existing renewable energy programs.

This legislation will also help New York State to meet its Renewable Portfolio Standard goals which were recently expanded.

For the foregoing reasons, the Companies urge that favorable action be taken on this legislation.