

# AGC ARKANSAS

February 5, 2019

Dear Members of the Arkansas General Assembly:

Founded in 1934, the Arkansas Chapter of the Associated General Contractors of America, Inc. is a voluntary trade association of commercial general contracting firms (building, highway & utility), specialty contractors and supply and service firms. The mission of the Arkansas AGC is to pursue skill, integrity and responsibility in the construction industry, to provide training and to serve as the voice of the construction industry in Arkansas.

Arkansas AGC supports smart solar policy that will help grow our state's economy and create economic opportunities for the construction industry. That's why we call on members of the General Assembly to support SB 145, common-sense legislation that would provide greater access to solar energy. SB 145 would eliminate barriers to third-party ownership of solar energy systems, which would allow a business owner to lease a system from a solar firm. Arkansas is one of only 5 states that prohibits such a widely accepted purchasing model, closing the door on greater economic opportunities for our state.

SB 145 would allow more businesses, government entities, schools, churches, non-profit organizations and homeowners to access solar power if desired. Major U.S. businesses have recognized that solar is a cost-effective way to power their operations. Access to this power is a key factor in choosing locations and drives economic development for states that embrace smart solar policy.

Arkansas AGC does not support efforts that would weaken SB 145, specifically proposals that would significantly reduce the value of solar power and cause our state to fall further behind. Thank you for your consideration of this job-creating legislation.

Sincerely,



Joey Dean  
Executive Vice-President  
Associated General Contractors of Arkansas

