



DRA

*Division of Ratepayer Advocates
California Public Utilities Commission*

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Dana S. Appling, Director

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June 10, 2008

Honorable Sally Lieber
California State Assembly
State Capitol, Room 3013
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 2857 (Lieber) Support

Dear Assemblymember Lieber:

The Division of Ratepayer Advocates (DRA) is the independent consumer advocacy division of the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC). DRA's statutory mandate is to obtain the lowest possible rate for utility service consistent with reliable and safe service levels. DRA also advocates for customer and environmental protections in connection with utility service.

DRA supports your AB 2857, which would prohibit the CPUC from denying the California Alternative Rates for Energy (CARE) program's 20% discount to eligible low-income individuals that live in a master-metered community but are not submetered.

AB 2857 would expand CARE program eligibility to qualified low-income tenants that receive electric or natural gas service from a master-meter customer through a system that is not sub-metered. As a result, more eligible low-income individuals would be able to benefit from the CARE program.

DRA strongly supports your bill's efforts to help eligible low-income customers benefit from the CARE program and looks forward to working with you to pass this important legislation.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss this matter further, please call Matthew Marcus our Legislative Director at (916) 327-3455 or me at (415) 703-2544

Respectfully,

Dana S. Appling, Director
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