



# “21<sup>st</sup> CENTURY GREEN COMMUNITIES”

## GREEN ENERGY SPECIAL SERVICE AREAS

### HB 67

#### ***Issue:***

Green Energy Initiatives are a fundamental component of our State’s economic and community development. Property assessed clean energy creates opt-in municipal and county special service areas to create a financing tool to incentivize energy retrofits in commercial and residential buildings. Through new statutory authority, local governments receive additional revenue to build green energy retrofit programs. Property owners *only* participate in the special service area if they “opt in”.

#### ***Proposed Action:***

Amend the Property Tax Code to allow municipalities and counties to establish Green Energy Special Service Areas. Green Energy Special Service Areas only apply to property owners who execute a contract or agreement with the county or municipality consenting to the inclusion of the property within the Green Energy Special Service Area.

#### ***Rationale:***

Creating Green Energy SSAs provide local governments with an important tool to create incentives for property owners to install energy retrofits. At the same time, property owners who opt in to the Green Energy SSA receive: 1) technical assistance and support from their local government to retrofit their buildings with energy efficient improvements; and 2) energy performance resulting in greatly reduced energy bills. Communities as a whole benefit from: 1) reduced carbon emissions and improved environment and ecology; and 2) the creation of new green jobs. This is a true **WIN-WIN-WIN**.

**PLEASE SUPPORT HOUSE BILL 67 CREATING GREEN ENERGY SPECIAL SERVICE AREAS.**