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Despite Alabama being one of the sunniest states in the nation, we rank at the bottom when it comes to solar energy efforts: this is in part due to the Alabama legislature passing bills which reduce renewable energy expansion. Additionally, the Public Service Commission, the governmental entity charged with regulating utility companies, has been complicit regarding renewable energy because of the high level of utility company's control over the state. Solar energy has been proven to boost state's economy, diversify the job market, create more jobs, reduce the state's carbon footprint, and provide steady power/autonomy to those living in rural areas, and it is ridiculous that Alabama is not incorporating solar energy into our state.

WEARE, which stands for "We Envision Alabamian Renewable Energy", is an organization that was formed (by Abigail Franks, a junior studying political science, and Nick Ciancio, a senior studying neuroscience) in response to the injustice present in Alabama's Public Service Commission and the state's legislature. Our mission is to educate Alabamians about the importance and availability of renewable energy (especially solar energy), campaign for those who aspire to create clean energy policies for Alabama, and to create innovation solutions to make the transition to solar energy in Alabama feasible.

Future:

Because WEARE successfully campaigned for solar policy change, Alabama has begun normalizing the use of solar energy. Not only has the organization educated hundreds of Alabamians about renewable energy, they have formed partnerships with other environmental organizations and solar companies within the state. Though the founders have graduated college and moved away, the organization is thriving and continuing to foster an environmentally conscious culture in Alabama. The biggest success the organization has achieved, however, is campaigning for policies that make residential solar for low income families affordable.



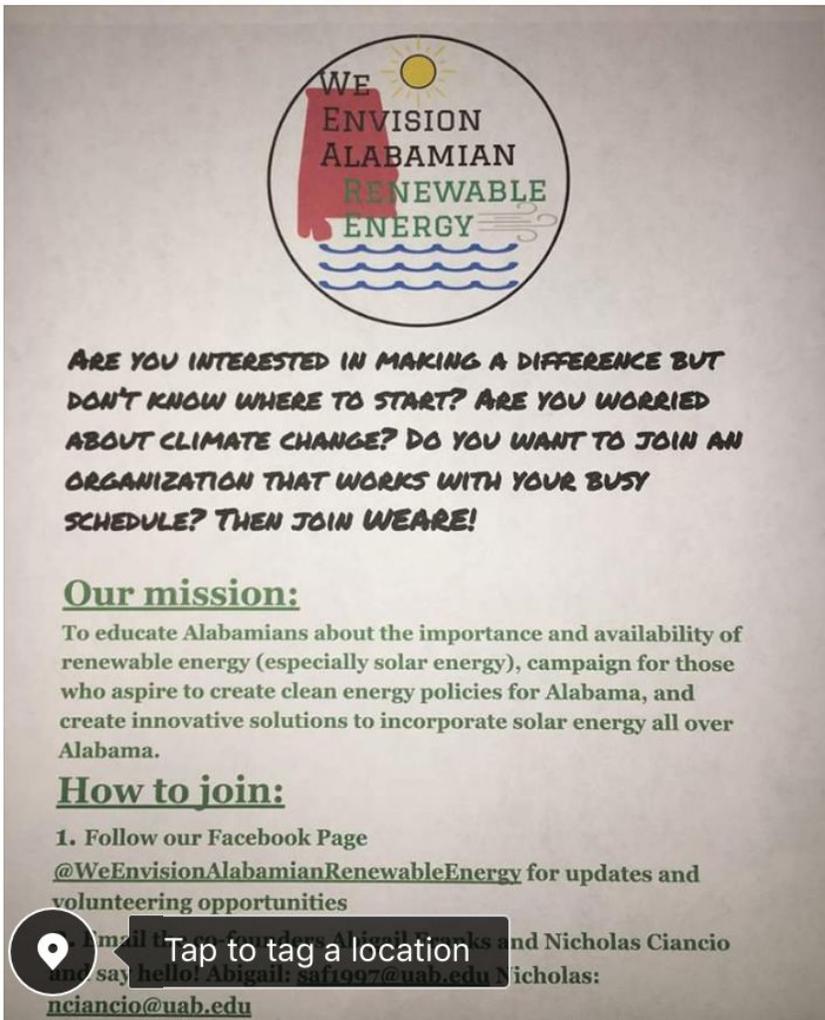
Abigail Franks

Just now · 👤



Starting making flyers for WEARE! I'm kind of nervous to officially kick off this organization, but I'm excited to see what all we can accomplish.

For those of you who don't know about WEARE, look us up at @WeEnvisionAlabamianRenewableEnergy !!



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