

SB 270 - VERSION ADOPTED BY BOTH BODIES

02/16/2022 0667s
4May2022... 1444h

2022 SESSION

22-3025
10/04

SENATE BILL **270**

AN ACT establishing a low-moderate income community solar program.

SPONSORS: Sen. Watters, Dist 4; Sen. Avard, Dist 12; Sen. Perkins Kwoka, Dist 21; Sen. D'Allesandro, Dist 20; Sen. Bradley, Dist 3; Sen. Hennessey, Dist 1; Sen. Whitley, Dist 15; Sen. Rosenwald, Dist 13; Sen. Soucy, Dist 18; Sen. Gannon, Dist 23; Sen. Sherman, Dist 24; Sen. Giuda, Dist 2; Rep. Cali-Pitts, Rock. 30; Rep. McGhee, Hills. 27

COMMITTEE: Energy and Natural Resources

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill establishes a program for low-moderate income electric customers to participate in qualifying community solar projects.

Explanation: Matter added to current law appears in ***bold italics***.
Matter removed from current law appears ~~[in brackets and struckthrough.]~~
Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty Two

AN ACT establishing a low-moderate income community solar program.

Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:

1 1 Net Energy Metering; Community Solar Program. RSA 362-A:9, XIV(d) and (e) are repealed
2 and reenacted to read as follows:

3 (d) The electric distribution utilities shall establish a list of potential low-moderate
4 income residential customers who qualify to benefit from the low-moderate income community solar
5 addition. This list shall consist of residents who have enrolled in or are on the waitlist for the state
6 Electric Assistance Program.

7 (e) Within 90 days of the effective date of this subparagraph, the department of energy
8 shall develop a process by which community solar developers can apply for designation as a
9 community solar project. Such projects designate their production for the benefit of households on
10 the list required in subparagraph (d). Such projects will qualify for the low-moderate income solar
11 addition as established in subparagraph (c) and shall specify the amount of on-bill credit they can
12 offer to low-moderate income homeowners. Annually, the number of projects designated as low-
13 moderate income community solar shall not exceed a total nameplate capacity rating of 6 megawatts
14 in the aggregate. If more than 6 megawatts of projects apply for designation, the department of
15 energy shall select the projects that offer the largest on-bill credit.

16 (f) Each year, the department of energy, in consultation with the electric distribution
17 utilities, shall select a means by which to enroll households as off-takers for these low-moderate
18 income community solar projects. Customers shall be enrolled on an opt-out basis, notified by mail
19 of their enrollment, and informed of the details of the project from which they are receiving credit.
20 Once enrolled, such customers shall receive on-bill credits until such time as they no longer qualify
21 for the Electric Assistance Program, or until they opt out from receiving credits.

22 (g) All reasonable and prudently-incurred costs incurred by the electric distribution
23 utilities related to this program, including but not limited to, costs of implementation, billing, and
24 administrative activities, shall not be borne by the utilities, but shall be recovered from customers.

25 (h) Utility owned projects that are designated as community solar projects shall not
26 count against the limitation on the maximum allowed distributed energy resources as established by
27 RSA 374-G:4.

28 (i) Nothing in this chapter shall preclude low-moderate income solar community projects
29 from enrolling customers through any other method besides the process described in subparagraphs
30 (d)-(f). A description of any alternative method used shall be filed with department of energy.

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1 (j) The department is authorized to petition the commission to assess fines against,
2 revoke the registration of, and prohibit from doing business in the state, any group host which
3 violates the requirements of this paragraph and rules adopted for this paragraph pursuant to
4 paragraph X. The commission is authorized to grant or deny such petitions.

5 2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.