

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

Action: Do Pass the A-Engrossed Measure
Vote: 5 - 0 - 0
Yeas: George, Schrader, Starr, Verger, Metsger
Nays: -
Exc.: -
Prepared By: Jim Stenbridge, Administrator
Meeting Dates: 2/17

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Deletes requirement that solar photovoltaic energy systems have the primary purpose of meeting electric company's customer load service obligation in order to be qualifying system for purposes of the solar photovoltaic energy system pilot project. Defines "residential qualifying system" as having nameplate capacity of 10 kilowatts or less. Defines "small commercial qualifying system" as having nameplate capacity greater than 10 kilowatts and less than or equal to 100 kilowatts. Changes definition of resource value to exclude renewable energy certificates (RECs). Authorizes Public Utility Commission (PUC) to demonstrate use and effectiveness of non-energy attributes of electricity. Authorizes PUC to adjust percentage goal for capacity deployed by residential and small commercial qualifying systems. Establishes that qualifying systems participating in pilot program are not eligible for Residential Energy Tax Credit or Business Energy Tax Credit. Establishes that pilot program closes to new participants when pilot programs equal 25 megawatts of alternating current or March 31, 2015 at the latest. Changes PUC reporting requirement to require evaluation of the effectiveness of pilot programs compared with the effectiveness of expenditures under public purchase charge, Residential Energy Tax Credit, or Business Energy Tax Credit. Requires pilot program to be established no later than July 1, 2010. Requires PUC to submit first report to Legislature no later than January 1, 2011. Declares an emergency, effective upon passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Provisions of the measure

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: The 2009 Legislative Assembly passed HB 3039, which directed the PUC to develop a pilot solar feed-in tariff program. The PUC started the rulemaking process in September 2009. By statute, the pilot program must be established by April 1, 2010. HB 3690-A makes technical clarifications to the pilot program.