

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

Action:	Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed
Vote:	6 - 0 - 0
Yeas:	Edwards, Girod, Monroe, Starr, Thomsen, Beyer
Nays:	0
Exc.:	0
Prepared By:	Patrick Brennan, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	3/21, 4/18

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Modifies provisions authorizing tariff schedules for use by public utilities that provide energy resource measures to individual property owners or customers. Makes tariff schedules subject to approval by Public Utility Commission. Specifies energy resource measures that may be provided by public utilities.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Maximizing energy efficiency and conservation
- Potential impact on utility rates
- Incentives for investing in energy efficiency and conservation

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Clarifies Commission may authorize tariff schedule only upon application of utility. Deletes language allowing public utility to include prudently incurred costs related to implementing energy efficiency or energy conservation into its rate schedule.

BACKGROUND: Senate Bill 561-A revises statute that allows a utility to enter into an agreement with a customer of the utility to provide for the installation of renewable energy generation facilities or energy conservation measures on their property. Under such an agreement, the utility agrees to assist in the financing of installation or implementation of renewable energy generation, energy conservation measures, or demand reduction or peak load reduction designed for more effective utilization of energy resources. This assistance can be in the form of loans or direct payments to third parties. As part of such an agreement, the customer would then agree to pay a tariff that would be added to their utility bill to allow the utility to recover the cost of financing the project. Agreements for such a “premise charge” are subject to approval by the Public Utility Commission upon application to the Commission by the utility.