

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

Action: Do Pass

Vote: 8 - 1 - 0

Yeas: Bentz, Boone, Dembrow, Johnson, Reardon, Vega Pederson, Weidner, Bailey

Nays: Whitsett

Exc.: 0

Prepared By: Adam Crawford, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 5/16

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Allows Public Utility Commission (PUC) to authorize public utility to set tariff schedules for energy resource measures provided to individual property owners or customers. Requires PUC approval for tariff schedules. Provides examples of energy resource measures.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Energy resource measures
- Power purchase agreements
- Large industrial or educational facilities as targets of measure
- Lien process

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: Senate Bill 561 A revises a 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. Senate Bill A modernizes the statute relating to these agreements.