

HOUSE AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL 2893

By COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT

April 11

- 1 On page 1 of the printed bill, line 2, delete “757.300 and”.
- 2 In line 3, delete “757.375; repealing ORS”.
- 3 Delete lines 5 through 29 and delete pages 2 through 5 and insert:
- 4 “**SECTION 1.** ORS 757.365 is amended to read:
- 5 “757.365. (1) The Public Utility Commission shall establish a pilot program for each electric
- 6 company to demonstrate the use and effectiveness of volumetric incentive rates and payments for
- 7 electricity or for the nonenergy attributes of electricity, or both, from solar photovoltaic energy
- 8 systems that are permanently installed in this state by retail electricity consumers and that first
- 9 become operational after the program begins. The cumulative nameplate capacity of the qualifying
- 10 systems enrolled in all of the pilot programs may not exceed [25] **27.5** megawatts of alternating
- 11 current. Qualifying systems enrolled in the pilot program may not have nameplate generating ca-
- 12 pacity greater than 500 kilowatts.
- 13 “(2) The commission by rule shall adopt requirements for the pilot programs described in sub-
- 14 section (1) of this section. Each electric company shall file for commission approval tariff schedules
- 15 for the pilot programs that conform to the requirements.
- 16 “(3) The commission may establish incentive rates for the pilot programs to enable the devel-
- 17 opment of the most efficient solar photovoltaic energy systems.
- 18 “(4) A retail electricity consumer participating in a pilot program may receive payments based
- 19 on electricity generated from solar photovoltaic energy system output for 15 years from the
- 20 consumer’s date of enrollment in the program, at rates or through a rate formula in a tariff schedule
- 21 established at the time of enrollment, or at rates otherwise established at the time of enrollment.
- 22 The consumer thereafter may receive payments based upon electricity generated from the qualifying
- 23 system at a rate equal to the resource value.
- 24 “(5) The commission may adjust the tariff schedule as needed for new pilot program participants
- 25 for the purpose of meeting the goal established in subsection (1) of this section. Once a retail elec-
- 26 tricity consumer is enrolled in a program, the rates or rate formula for determining payments to the
- 27 consumer may not be modified.
- 28 “(6) [*The commission shall establish pilot programs designed to attain a goal of 75 percent of the*
- 29 *capacity under each program to be deployed by residential qualifying systems and small commercial*
- 30 *qualifying systems.*] The commission [*by rule*] may **adopt and** adjust [*the*] **a** percentage goal for ca-
- 31 pacity deployed by residential and small commercial qualifying systems based upon the costs of the
- 32 energy generated, the feasibility of attaining the goal and other factors.
- 33 “(7) The commission may establish total generator nameplate capacity limits for an electric
- 34 company so that the rate impact of the pilot program for any customer class does not exceed 0.25
- 35 percent of the electric company’s revenue requirement for the class in any year.

1 “(8) Ownership of renewable energy certificates established under ORS 469A.130 that are asso-
2 ciated with renewable energy generation under the pilot programs must be transferred to the elec-
3 tric company and may be used to comply with the renewable portfolio standard described in ORS
4 469A.052 or 469A.055.

5 “(9) To the extent that rates paid under a pilot program exceed the resource value, qualifying
6 systems participating in the pilot programs are not eligible for expenditures under ORS 757.612
7 (3)(b)(B) or tax credits under ORS 469B.100 to 469B.118 or 469B.130 to 469B.169.

8 “(10) All prudently incurred costs associated with compliance with this section are recoverable
9 in the rates of an electric company.

10 “(11) The commission shall advise and assist the owners and operators of qualifying systems in
11 identifying and using grants, incentive moneys, federal funding and other sources of noninvestment
12 financial support for the construction and operation of qualifying systems.

13 “(12) The pilot programs described in subsection (1) of this section close to new participants on
14 the earlier of:

15 “(a) March 31, [2015] **2016**; or

16 “(b) The date the cumulative nameplate capacity of solar photovoltaic energy systems that have
17 been permanently installed by retail electricity consumers under the pilot programs equals [25] **27.5**
18 megawatts of alternating current.

19 “(13) The commission shall submit a report to the Legislative Assembly by January 1 of each
20 odd-numbered year. The report must evaluate the effectiveness of the pilot programs described in
21 subsection (1) of this section compared to the effectiveness of expenditures under ORS 757.612
22 (3)(b)(B) or tax credits under ORS 469B.100 to 469B.118 or 469B.130 to 469B.169 for promoting the
23 use of solar photovoltaic energy systems and reducing system costs. The report must also evaluate
24 the estimated cost of the program to retail electricity consumers.

25 “**SECTION 2. The amendments to ORS 757.365 by section 3 of this 2013 Act become op-**
26 **erative on March 31, 2014.**

27 “**SECTION 3.** ORS 757.365, as amended by section 1 of this 2013 Act, is amended to read:

28 “757.365. (1) The Public Utility Commission shall establish a pilot program for each electric
29 company to demonstrate the use and effectiveness of volumetric incentive rates and payments for
30 electricity or for the nonenergy attributes of electricity, or both, from solar photovoltaic energy
31 systems that are permanently installed in this state by retail electricity consumers and that first
32 become operational after the program begins. The cumulative nameplate capacity of the qualifying
33 systems enrolled in all of the pilot programs may not exceed 27.5 megawatts of alternating current.
34 Qualifying systems enrolled in the pilot program may not have nameplate generating capacity
35 greater than 500 kilowatts.

36 “(2) The commission by rule shall adopt requirements for the pilot programs described in sub-
37 section (1) of this section. Each electric company shall file for commission approval tariff schedules
38 for the pilot programs that conform to the requirements.

39 “(3) The commission may establish incentive rates for the pilot programs to enable the devel-
40 opment of the most efficient solar photovoltaic energy systems.

41 “(4) A retail electricity consumer participating in a pilot program may receive payments based
42 on electricity generated from solar photovoltaic energy system output for 15 years from the
43 consumer’s date of enrollment in the program, at rates or through a rate formula in a tariff schedule
44 established at the time of enrollment, or at rates otherwise established at the time of enrollment.
45 The consumer thereafter may receive payments based upon electricity generated from the qualifying

1 system at a rate equal to the resource value.

2 “(5) The commission may adjust the tariff schedule as needed for new pilot program participants
3 for the purpose of meeting the goal established in subsection (1) of this section. Once a retail elec-
4 tricity consumer is enrolled in a program, the rates or rate formula for determining payments to the
5 consumer may not be modified.

6 “(6) The commission may adopt and adjust a percentage goal for capacity deployed by residen-
7 tial and small commercial qualifying systems based upon the costs of the energy generated, the
8 feasibility of attaining the goal and other factors. **For purposes of attaining the goal described**
9 **in this subsection, the commission shall require 2.5 megawatts of alternating current from**
10 **the cumulative nameplate capacity of qualifying systems to be generated by individual sys-**
11 **tems with a nameplate generating capacity between five and 100 kilowatts.**

12 “(7) The commission may establish total generator nameplate capacity limits for an electric
13 company so that the rate impact of the pilot program for any customer class does not exceed 0.25
14 percent of the electric company’s revenue requirement for the class in any year.

15 “(8) Ownership of renewable energy certificates established under ORS 469A.130 that are asso-
16 ciated with renewable energy generation under the pilot programs must be transferred to the elec-
17 tric company and may be used to comply with the renewable portfolio standard described in ORS
18 469A.052 or 469A.055.

19 “(9) To the extent that rates paid under a pilot program exceed the resource value, qualifying
20 systems participating in the pilot programs are not eligible for expenditures under ORS 757.612
21 (3)(b)(B) or tax credits under ORS 469B.100 to 469B.118 or 469B.130 to 469B.169.

22 “(10) All prudently incurred costs associated with compliance with this section are recoverable
23 in the rates of an electric company.

24 “(11) The commission shall advise and assist the owners and operators of qualifying systems in
25 identifying and using grants, incentive moneys, federal funding and other sources of noninvestment
26 financial support for the construction and operation of qualifying systems.

27 “(12) The pilot programs described in subsection (1) of this section close to new participants on
28 the earlier of:

29 “(a) March 31, 2016; or

30 “(b) The date the cumulative nameplate capacity of solar photovoltaic energy systems that have
31 been permanently installed by retail electricity consumers under the pilot programs equals 27.5
32 megawatts of alternating current.

33 “(13) The commission shall submit a report to the Legislative Assembly by January 1 of each
34 odd-numbered year. The report must evaluate the effectiveness of the pilot programs described in
35 subsection (1) of this section compared to the effectiveness of expenditures under ORS 757.612
36 (3)(b)(B) or tax credits under ORS 469B.100 to 469B.118 or 469B.130 to 469B.169 for promoting the
37 use of solar photovoltaic energy systems and reducing system costs. The report must also [*evaluate*
38 *the estimated*] **estimate the cost of the program to retail electricity consumers and the resource**
39 **value of solar energy.**

40 “**SECTION 4. (1) The Public Utility Commission shall study the effectiveness of programs**
41 **that provide incentives for the use of solar photovoltaic energy systems. As part of the**
42 **study, the commission shall:**

43 “(a) **Investigate the resource value of solar energy;**

44 “(b) **Investigate the costs and benefits of the programs for retail electricity consumers**
45 **and how those costs and benefits are distributed among retail electricity consumers;**

1 “(c) Forecast the costs associated with solar photovoltaic energy systems located in
2 Oregon;

3 “(d) Identify barriers within the programs to providing incentives for the development
4 of solar photovoltaic energy systems; and

5 “(e) Make recommendations for modifying the programs or establishing new programs
6 for the purpose of providing incentives for the development of solar photovoltaic energy
7 systems in a manner that is cost effective and protects ratepayers, including ratepayers that
8 do not participate in the programs.

9 “(2) The commission shall consult with the State Department of Energy in conducting
10 the study described in subsection (1) of this section.

11 “(3) On or before July 1, 2014, the commission shall report on the results of the study,
12 and may include recommendations for legislation, to the interim committees of the Legisla-
13 tive Assembly related to energy.

14 “SECTION 5. Section 4 of this 2013 Act is repealed on January 2, 2015.

15 “SECTION 6. This 2013 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public
16 peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2013 Act takes effect
17 on its passage.”.

18
