

SB 827 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Carrier: Sen. Sollman

Senate Committee On Energy and Environment

Action Date: 02/17/25

Action: Do pass and requesting subsequent referral to Ways and Means be rescinded.

Vote: 4-1-0-0

Yeas: 4 - Golden, Pham, Smith DB, Sollman

Nays: 1 - Robinson

Fiscal: No fiscal impact

Revenue: No revenue impact

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Meeting Dates: 2/5, 2/17

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure expands direction to the Oregon Department of Energy (ODOE) to provide rebates for the purchase, construction, or installation of energy storage systems (rebate program) that will be paired at the time of installation with previously purchased and installed solar electric systems and authorizes ODOE to include provisions for consumer protection in rulemaking efforts regarding the rebate program.

Detailed Summary

Expands direction to the Oregon Department of Energy (ODOE) to provide rebates for the purchase, construction, or installation of energy storage systems (rebate program) that will be paired at the time of installation with previously purchased and installed solar electric systems. Authorizes ODOE to include provisions for consumer protection in rulemaking efforts regarding the rebate program. Specifies that over the course of a calendar year, no more than 25 percent of rebate program funds may be used for paired solar and storage systems and prohibits rebates for energy storage systems from exceeding the following limits:

- For low or moderate-income residential customers:
 - 60 percent of the net cost of the energy storage system or \$2,500 (whichever is less) and
 - 60 percent of the net cost of paired solar and storage system or \$5,000 (whichever is less);
- For residential customers that are not low or moderate income
 - 40 percent of the net cost of energy storage system or \$2,500 (whichever is less) and
 - 40 percent of the net cost of paired solar and storage system or \$5,000 (whichever is less); and
- For low-income service providers
 - 60 percent of the net cost of energy storage system or \$15,000 (whichever is less) and
 - 60 percent of the net cost of paired solar and storage system or \$30,000 (whichever is less).

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Payback period for solar and storage projects
- Operation of current purchase, construction, or installation of energy storage systems program
- Role of battery storage in disaster preparedness

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

In 2019, the Legislative Assembly enacted House Bill 2618, which directed the Oregon Department of Energy (ODOE) to adopt a program to provide rebates for the purchase, construction, or installation of solar electric systems and paired solar and storage systems. ODOE implemented the Oregon Solar + Storage Rebate Program. As of January 2025, 6,950 projects have either received or reserved rebates in 34 Oregon counties through the

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program.