

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 1209

100TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE KNIGHT.

2104H.011

DANA RADEMAN MILLER, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To amend chapter 640, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to solar site management.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Chapter 640, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be known as section 640.076, to read as follows:

640.076. 1. The provisions of this section shall be known and may be cited as the "Missouri Solar Pollinator Habitat Act".

2. For purposes of this section, the following terms mean:

(1) "Department", the department of natural resources;

(2) "Native perennial vegetation", perennial Missouri wildflowers, shrubs, grasses, or other plants that serve as beneficial habitat, forage, or migratory waystations for pollinators;

(3) "Pollinators", any bees, birds, butterflies, or other animals or insects, including any wild or managed insects, that pollinate flowering plants;

(4) "Solar site", a ground-mounted solar system for generating electricity that is at least one acre in size;

(5) "Vegetation management plan", a written document that includes short-term and long-term site management practices that will provide and maintain native perennial vegetation.

3. The department, in consultation with other state and nongovernmental agencies with expertise in pollinators, shall publish a scorecard that sets forth criteria for making a claim that a solar site is pollinator-friendly or provides benefits to pollinators. The

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in bold-face type in the above bill is proposed language.

18 scorecard shall be available on the website of the department within six months of the
19 effective date of this section.

20 4. An owner of a solar site may follow practices at the solar site that:

21 (1) Provide native perennial vegetation and foraging habitat beneficial to
22 pollinators; and

23 (2) Reduce stormwater runoff and erosion.

24 5. An owner of a solar site implementing site management practices under
25 subsection 4 of this section may claim that the site is pollinator-friendly or provides
26 benefits to pollinators only if the site and the site's vegetation management plan adhere to
27 the criteria set forth in the department's scorecard described under subsection 3 of this
28 section.

29 6. An owner making a claim that a solar site is pollinator-friendly or provides
30 benefits to pollinators shall make the solar site's completed scorecard and vegetation
31 management plan available to the public and provide a copy to the department and a
32 nonprofit solar industry trade association of this state.

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