

2022 -- H 7126

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LC003379
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2022

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A N A C T

RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS -- THE RENEWABLE ENERGY
GROWTH PROGRAM

Introduced By: Representative P Morgan

Date Introduced: January 20, 2022

Referred To: House Finance

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 39-26.6 of the General Laws entitled "The Renewable Energy
2 Growth Program" is hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:

3 **39-26.6-28. Yearly deposits required.**

4 (a) The general treasurer is hereby authorized to create a restricted receipt escrow account
5 to handle the disposal of solar panels. The general treasurer is authorized to promulgate rules and
6 regulations, in accordance with this section.

7 (b)(1) The disposal and/or remediation or repair of solar panel installations shall not be the
8 financial responsibility of electric ratepayers.

9 (2) The disposal and/or remediation or repair of solar installations shall not be the financial
10 responsibility of any government entity.

11 (3) The owner of any large-scale solar installation, defined in this section as any installation
12 that is not for strictly personal residential consumption, shall deposit two hundred dollars (\$200)
13 for each solar panel annually by June 1 of every year into the escrow account established pursuant
14 to subsection (a) of this section. This escrow account may be interest bearing and shall be held by
15 the general treasurer.

16 (4) When the solar installations must be removed, the funds in the escrow account may be
17 used to pay for disposal and/or repair or remediation of the solar panels. Any cost not covered by
18 the owner's funds in the escrow account is the responsibility of the owner. If the cost of removal or

1 remediation is less than their funds in the escrow account, their balance in the account shall be
2 applied to other installations owned by the same owner, or returned to the owner.

3 (c) Residential homeowners who own solar equipment for their own residential use or for
4 use by tenants in a building on which solar panels are installed shall be exempt from the yearly
5 deposit requirement.

6 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF

A N A C T

RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS -- THE RENEWABLE ENERGY
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1 This act would require a yearly deposit of two hundred dollars (\$200) per solar panel into
2 a restricted receipt escrow account to the pay for the future disposal of the panels. This act would
3 exempt residential homeowners from the deposit requirements.

4 This act would take effect upon passage.

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