

1 H.550

2 Introduced by Representatives Terenzini of Rutland Town, Brennan of
3 Colchester, Goslant of Northfield, Hango of Berkshire, Higley
4 of Lowell, Lefebvre of Newark, Morgan, L. of Milton, Morgan,
5 M. of Milton, Page of Newport City, and Peterson of Clarendon

6 Referred to Committee on

7 Date:

8 Subject: Public service; energy; energy efficiency charge

9 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to limit the
10 energy efficiency charge for net metering customers to the net consumption of
11 electricity.

12 An act relating to the energy efficiency charge for net metering customers

13 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

14 Sec. 1. 30 V.S.A. § 209 is amended to read:

15 § 209. JURISDICTION; GENERAL SCOPE

16 * * *

17 (d) Energy efficiency.

18 * * *

19 (3) Energy efficiency charge; regulated fuels. In addition to its existing
20 authority, the Commission may establish by order or rule a volumetric charge

1 to customers for the support of energy efficiency programs that meet the
2 requirements of section 218c of this title, with due consideration to the State's
3 energy policy under section 202a of this title and to its energy and economic
4 policy interests under section 218e of this title to maintain and enhance the
5 State's economic vitality. The charge shall be known as the energy efficiency
6 charge, shall be shown separately on each customer's bill, and shall be paid to
7 a fund administrator appointed by the Commission and deposited into the
8 Electric Efficiency Fund. When such a charge is shown, notice as to how to
9 obtain information about energy efficiency programs approved under this
10 section shall be provided in a manner directed by the Commission. This notice
11 shall include, at a minimum, a toll-free telephone number, and to the extent
12 feasible shall be on the customer's bill and near the energy efficiency charge.

13 * * *

14 (B)(i) The charge established by the Commission pursuant to this
15 subdivision (3) shall be in an amount determined by the Commission by rule or
16 order that is consistent with the principles of least-cost integrated planning as
17 defined in section 218c of this title. As circumstances and programs evolve,
18 the amount of the charge shall be reviewed for unrealized energy efficiency
19 potential and shall be adjusted as necessary in order to realize all reasonably
20 available, cost-effective energy efficiency savings. The amount of the charge
21 for a customer with a net metering system, as defined in section 8002 of this

1 title, shall be applied only to the amount of electricity the customer consumes
2 from the grid.

3 (ii) In setting the amount of the charge and its allocation, the
4 Commission shall determine an appropriate balance among the following
5 objectives; provided, however, that particular emphasis shall be accorded to
6 the first four of these objectives: reducing the size of future power purchases;
7 reducing the generation of greenhouse gases; limiting the need to upgrade the
8 State's transmission and distribution infrastructure; minimizing the costs of
9 electricity; reducing Vermont's total energy demand, consumption, and
10 expenditures; providing efficiency and conservation as a part of a
11 comprehensive resource supply strategy; providing the opportunity for all
12 Vermonters to participate in efficiency and conservation programs; and
13 targeting efficiency and conservation efforts to locations, markets, or
14 customers where they may provide the greatest value.

15 (iii) The Commission, by rule or order, shall establish a process by
16 which a customer who pays an average annual energy efficiency charge under
17 this subdivision (3) of at least \$5,000.00 may apply to the Commission to self-
18 administer energy efficiency through the use of an energy savings account
19 ~~which~~ that shall contain a percentage of the customer's energy efficiency
20 charge payments as determined by the Commission. The remaining portion of

1 the charge shall be used for systemwide energy benefits. The Commission in
2 its rules or order shall establish criteria for approval of these applications.

3 * * *

4 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

5 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2022.