
OLR Bill Analysis

sHB 5115

AN ACT CONCERNING TECHNICAL AND MINOR REVISIONS TO AND REPEAL OF OBSOLETE PROVISIONS OF ENERGY AND TECHNOLOGY STATUTES.

SUMMARY:

This bill makes a minor change in the law governing virtual net metering, which allows certain electric customers to share a billing credit they receive when they generate power using renewable energy technologies.

It eliminates a statutory requirement that electric companies separately identify the charge for generation services on their customers' bills (there is a similar but more limited requirement in Public Utility Regulatory Authority regulations). It also explicitly exempts entities that submeter (e.g., a campground that measures electric use at individual campsites) from the laws and regulations that apply to electric companies.

Finally, the bill makes numerous technical changes to the energy and public utility statutes that, among other things, eliminate obsolete provisions (e.g., those regulating telegraph companies) and correct statutory references.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage, except for technical changes regarding geographical information systems (§ 79), installation of oil burners and related equipment (§ 109), pipeline safety (§ 111), installation of gas equipment and piping (§ 112), and storage of liquefied petroleum gas (propane) (§ 114), which are effective January 1, 2015.

VIRTUAL NET METERING

By law, municipal, state agency, and agricultural electric customers that install specified renewable generation systems ("hosts") are

eligible to receive a billing credit for power they generate and provide to the grid. The customers can share this credit with certain other customers (“beneficial accounts”). The total amount of the credits is capped at \$10 million, and each of the three categories of hosts is limited to 40% of this amount. The bill specifies that the 40% limit also applies to the beneficial accounts of these three categories of hosts.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Energy and Technology Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 23 Nay 0 (03/18/2014)