



General Assembly

February Session, 2016

Raised Bill No. 5309

LCO No. 1413



Referred to Committee on ENERGY AND TECHNOLOGY

Introduced by:
(ET)

***AN ACT CONCERNING FACILITATION OF THE MUNICIPAL
RESIDENTIAL SOLAR APPLICATION PROCESS.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 16-245nn of the 2016 supplement to the general
2 statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof
3 (*Effective from passage*):

4 (a) As used in this section:

5 (1) "Residential solar photovoltaic system" means equipment and
6 devices that have the primary purpose of collecting solar energy and
7 generating electricity by photovoltaic effect, have a nameplate capacity
8 rating of twelve kilowatts or less, are installed on the roof of a single-
9 family home and conform to the Connecticut State Building Code;

10 (2) "Municipality" means any town, city, borough, consolidated
11 town and city or consolidated town and borough;

12 (3) "Electronic submission" means the act of a permit applicant who
13 submits his or her completed application to a municipality for review

14 by means of electronic mail, facsimile or electronic application
15 available on a municipality's Internet web site.

16 (b) Not later than January 1, 2016, each municipality shall
17 incorporate residential solar photovoltaic systems in its building
18 permit application process or utilize a residential solar photovoltaic
19 system permit application supplement. In furtherance of such
20 requirement, any municipality may choose to adopt the standardized
21 solar photovoltaic permit application form approved by the
22 Connecticut Green Bank, as described in subsection (g) of this section,
23 for this purpose. Each municipality may (1) develop and post on the
24 municipality's Internet web site a permit application for the installation
25 of a residential solar photovoltaic system, (2) allow for electronic
26 submission of such application, and (3) exempt such system from
27 payment of permit fees pursuant to subsection (c) of section 29-263.

28 (c) Not more than thirty days after receipt of a permit application, a
29 municipality shall inform such permit applicant whether such
30 application is approved or disapproved.

31 (d) In conducting inspections of work completed pursuant to a
32 residential solar photovoltaic system permit, a local building official
33 may use additional resources as described in the International
34 Residential Code portion of the Connecticut State Building Code.
35 Inspections shall be performed pursuant to said International
36 Residential Code portion of the Connecticut State Building Code.

37 (e) Nothing in this section shall authorize any person to cause any
38 home or structure located within a historic district established
39 pursuant to section 7-147b to be altered, as defined in section 7-147a.

40 (f) Not later than December 1, 2015, the Connecticut Green Bank, in
41 consultation with the office of the State Building Inspector, shall plan,
42 implement and host five residential solar photovoltaic system permit
43 training seminars, in different municipalities for the purpose of
44 providing guidance and information to municipal officials developing

45 a permitting process in accordance with this section. The Connecticut
46 Green Bank may consult with the Connecticut Conference of
47 Municipalities, the Connecticut Council of Small Towns, the
48 Renewable Energy and Efficiency Business Association and any other
49 organization or representative of such organization in the planning
50 and implementation of the training seminars.

51 (g) Not later than December 1, 2016, the Connecticut Green Bank, in
52 consultation with the State Building Inspector, shall approve a
53 standardized solar photovoltaic system permit application form for all
54 solar photovoltaic systems, including, but not limited to, residential
55 solar photovoltaic systems. Not later than January 1, 2017, the
56 Connecticut Green Bank shall: (1) Inform each municipality that such
57 standardized form is available, and (2) post such standardized form on
58 the Connecticut Green Bank's Internet web site for adoption by any
59 such municipality.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	16-245nn

Statement of Purpose:

To require the Green Bank to approve a standardized solar photovoltaic system permit application form for use by municipalities.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]