



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 103

January Session, 2025

Senate Bill No. 1281

Senate, March 18, 2025

The Committee on Environment reported through SEN. LOPES of the 6th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING A STUDY ON THE NEED FOR EXTENDED PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY FOR SOLAR PANELS AND WIND TURBINE BLADES.

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

1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) The Commissioner of Energy and
2 Environmental Protection, in consultation with the Public Utilities
3 Regulatory Authority, shall study the need to establish extended
4 producer responsibility programs in the state for discarded solar panels
5 and wind turbine blades, respectively, to provide for the recycling and
6 potential reuse of the materials, including, but not limited to, rare
7 minerals and metals, used in the manufacture of such panels or blades.
8 Such study shall include, but need not be limited to, an assessment of
9 the volume and estimated weight of solar panels, for commercial and
10 residential installations in the state, that will reach the end of their useful
11 life in the next five-year period, as well as the number of wind turbine
12 blades for terrestrial and marine-based installations that are estimated
13 to be disposed of in the state during the same period. Additionally, such
14 study shall determine: (1) What procedures are currently used for the

15 collection, disposal and recycling of the components of such solar panels
 16 and wind turbine blades; (2) the availability of neighboring state or
 17 regional extended producer responsibility programs for collaboration in
 18 handling such collection, disposal and recycling of such panels and
 19 blades; (3) the approximate costs to municipalities and residents of the
 20 state pursuant to current procedures utilized for the collection, disposal
 21 and recycling of such panels and blades in comparison to the estimated
 22 costs to municipalities and residents of the state for such collection,
 23 disposal and recycling pursuant to extended producer responsibility
 24 programs for such panels and blades; and (4) the requisite: (A)
 25 Collection facilities, (B) secondary markets, (C) financial structures, and
 26 (D) agency oversight personnel for the establishment of extended
 27 producer responsibility programs in this state for such solar panels and
 28 wind turbine blades, respectively. Not later than February 1, 2026, the
 29 commissioner shall submit a report, in accordance with the provisions
 30 of section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing committee
 31 of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to the
 32 environment on such study and any recommendations for legislation to
 33 establish such extended producer responsibility programs.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section

ENV *Joint Favorable*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note**State Impact:** None**Municipal Impact:** None**Explanation**

The bill requires the Commissioner of the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) to conduct a study related to extended producer responsibility programs in the state for discarded solar panels and wind turbine blades. This is not anticipated to result in a fiscal impact as the agency has the staff and expertise necessary to complete the study.

The Out Years**State Impact:** None**Municipal Impact:** None

OLR Bill Analysis

SB 1281

AN ACT CONCERNING A STUDY ON THE NEED FOR EXTENDED PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY FOR SOLAR PANELS AND WIND TURBINE BLADES.

SUMMARY

The Office of Legislative Research does not analyze Special Acts.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Environment Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 35 Nay 0 (02/28/2025)