

Bill No. SB 2478

Barcode 622840

CHAMBER ACTION

Senate

House

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The Committee on Communications and Public Utilities (Dockery)
recommended the following amendment:

Senate Amendment

Delete everything after the enacting clause

and insert:

Section 1. Section 377.707, Florida Statutes, is
created to read:

377.707 Florida Solar Energy Incentives Program.--

(1) DEFINITIONS.--As used in this section, unless the
context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the
following meanings:

(a) "Approved metering equipment" means a device
capable of measuring the energy output of a solar thermal
system either in BTU or KWH equivalents that has been approved
by the commission.

(b) "Certified" means tested by the Florida Solar
Energy Center to verify rated output or thermal performance.

(c) "Commission" means the Florida Public Service
Commission.

Bill No. SB 2478

Barcode 622840

1 (d) "Interconnected" means connected to a utility's
2 electrical grid.

3 (e) "Solar photovoltaic system" means a solar energy
4 system, including devices and related equipment, with a peak
5 generating capacity of 100 kilowatts or less used for
6 generating electricity for use in a residence, a place of
7 business, a publicly owned or operated facility, or a facility
8 owned or operated by a private, not-for-profit organization.

9 (f) "Solar thermal system" means a solar energy device
10 that provides domestic hot water for use in a residence, a
11 place of business, a publicly owned or operated facility, or a
12 facility owned or operated by a private, not-for-profit
13 organization.

14 (2) SOLAR ENERGY DEVELOPMENT FUNDING.--The sum of \$1.2
15 million in recurring general revenue is appropriated to the
16 Grants and Donations Trust Fund of the Board of Governors each
17 year for 5 years beginning with the 2006-2007 fiscal year and
18 continuing through the 2010-2011 fiscal year for the purposes
19 of supporting the development of a solar energy product market
20 in the state and implementing this section.

21 (3) SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC INCENTIVE PROGRAM.--To the
22 extent that funds are available pursuant to subsection (2), an
23 owner or tenant of property in this state that is a residence,
24 a place of business, a publicly owned or operated facility, or
25 a facility owned or operated by a private, not-for-profit
26 organization is entitled to a rebate for expenditures made by
27 the owner or tenant for a solar photovoltaic system that is
28 installed in accordance with this subsection after July 1,
29 2006, and that will be interconnected.

30 (a) Eligibility requirements.--A solar photovoltaic
31 system qualifies for a rebate if:

Bill No. SB 2478

Barcode 622840

1 1. The system is installed by a state-licensed master
2 electrician, electrical contractor, or solar contractor.

3 2. The system complies with state interconnection
4 standards as provided by the commission.

5 3. The system complies with all applicable building
6 codes as defined by the local jurisdictional authority.

7 4. The system includes minimum service and warranty
8 contracts.

9 (b) Rebate amounts.--The initial rebate amount shall
10 be set at \$4 per watt and decrease by 50 cents per watt each
11 year for 5 years. If the solar equipment is manufactured
12 within the state, the initial rebate amount shall be set at \$5
13 per watt and decrease by 50 cents per watt each year for 5
14 years. In the case of a newly constructed residence, the
15 rebate must be available to the original owner or occupant
16 using the dwelling as his or her principal residence. The
17 maximum allowable rebate per solar photovoltaic system
18 installation shall be as follows:

19 1. For a residence, \$20,000.

20 2. For a place of business, a publicly owned or
21 operated facility, or a facility owned or operated by a
22 private, not-for-profit organization, \$100,000.

23 (4) SOLAR THERMAL INCENTIVE PROGRAM.--To the extent
24 that funds are available pursuant to subsection (2), an owner
25 or tenant of property in this state that is a residence, a
26 place of business, a publicly owned or operated facility, or a
27 facility owned or operated by a private, not-for-profit
28 organization is entitled to a rebate for expenditures made by
29 the owner or tenant for a solar thermal system that is
30 installed in accordance with this subsection after July 1,
31 2006.

Bill No. SB 2478

Barcode 622840

1 (a) Eligibility requirements.--A solar thermal system
2 qualifies for a rebate if:

3 1. The system is installed by a state-licensed solar
4 or plumbing contractor.

5 2. The system complies with all applicable building
6 codes as defined by the local jurisdictional authority.

7 3. The system includes minimum service and warranty
8 contracts.

9 (b) Rebate amounts.--Authorized rebates for
10 installation of solar thermal systems shall be as follows:

11 1. For a residence, the rebate amount is \$300. If the
12 solar collector is manufactured within the state, the rebate
13 amount is \$500.

14 2. For a place of business, a publicly owned or
15 operated facility, or a facility owned or operated by a
16 private, not-for-profit organization, the rebate amount is \$15
17 per 1,000 BTU as certified by the Florida Solar Energy Center.
18 The maximum rebate amount is \$5,000. An approved metering
19 system is required.

20 (5) RULES.--The commission shall adopt rules pursuant
21 to ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54 necessary to implement this
22 section, including amending current interconnection standards
23 for solar energy systems up to 100 kilowatts and providing for
24 net metering of solar energy systems up to 100 kilowatts in
25 accordance with current Institute of Electrical and
26 Electronics Engineers, Inc., standards for solar energy
27 systems.

28 (6) PERFORMANCE CERTIFICATION.--The Florida Solar
29 Energy Center shall certify the performance of solar equipment
30 sold and installed in the state in accordance with this
31 section and s. 377.705.

Bill No. SB 2478

Barcode 622840

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Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2006.