

By Senator Constantine

22-03797-08

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1 A bill to be entitled

2 An act relating to energy efficiency; amending s. 366.81,  
3 F.S.; revising legislative intent concerning the Florida  
4 Energy Efficiency and Conservation Act; providing that a  
5 stated goal of the act is to encourage the use of advanced  
6 metering systems; providing an effective date.

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8 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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10 Section 1. Section 366.81, Florida Statutes, is amended to  
11 read:

12 366.81 Legislative findings and intent.--The Legislature  
13 finds and declares that it is critical to utilize the most  
14 efficient and cost-effective energy conservation systems in order  
15 to protect the health, prosperity, and general welfare of the  
16 state and its citizens. Reduction in, and control of, the growth  
17 rates of electric consumption and of weather-sensitive peak  
18 demand are of particular importance. The Legislature further  
19 finds that the Florida Public Service Commission is the  
20 appropriate agency to adopt goals and approve plans related to  
21 the conservation of electric energy and natural gas usage. The  
22 Legislature directs the commission to develop and adopt overall  
23 goals and authorizes the commission to require each utility to  
24 develop plans and implement programs for increasing energy  
25 efficiency and conservation within its service area, subject to  
26 the approval of the commission. Since solutions to our energy  
27 problems are complex, the Legislature intends that the use of  
28 solar energy, renewable energy sources, highly efficient systems,  
29 cogeneration, advanced metering systems, and load-control systems

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30 be encouraged. Accordingly, in exercising its jurisdiction, the  
31 commission shall not approve any rate or rate structure that  
32 ~~which~~ discriminates against any class of customers on account of  
33 the use of such facilities, systems, or devices. This expression  
34 of legislative intent does ~~shall not be construed to~~ preclude  
35 experimental rates, rate structures, or programs. The Legislature  
36 further finds and declares that ss. 366.80-366.85 and 403.519 are  
37 to be liberally construed in order to meet the complex problems  
38 of reducing and controlling the growth rates of electric  
39 consumption and reducing the growth rates of weather-sensitive  
40 peak demand; increasing the overall efficiency and cost-  
41 effectiveness of electricity and natural gas production and use;  
42 encouraging further development of cogeneration facilities; and  
43 conserving expensive resources, particularly petroleum fuels.

44 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2008.