

20091380e1

1                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to energy; amending s. 377.705, F.S.;  
3           requiring the Solar Energy Center to charge testing  
4           fees; directing the Florida Building Commission to  
5           make all changes to the building and energy codes  
6           necessary to conform to this act; providing that if a  
7           specified commissioner of the Florida Energy and  
8           Climate Commission is not confirmed during the 2009  
9           Regular Session or the 2010 Regular Session, the  
10          commissioner's appointment shall be extended until May  
11          1, 2010, except for any member who, during that time,  
12          the Senate expressly refuses to confirm; requiring the  
13          Florida Energy and Climate Commission to obtain the  
14          approval of the joint Legislative Budget Commission  
15          before spending or disbursing any funds received from  
16          the federal government as part of a federal stimulus  
17          package; providing an effective date.

18  
19   Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

20  
21           Section 1. Section 377.705, Florida Statutes, is amended to  
22   read:

23           377.705 Solar Energy Center; development of solar energy  
24   standards.—

25           (1) SHORT TITLE.—This section ~~act shall be known and~~ may be  
26   cited as the "Solar Energy Standards Act" ~~of 1976~~.

27           (2) LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS AND INTENT.—

28           (a) Because of increases in the cost of conventional fuel,  
29   certain applications of solar energy are becoming competitive,

20091380e1

30 particularly when life-cycle costs are considered. It is the  
31 intent of the Legislature in formulating a sound and balanced  
32 energy policy for the state to encourage the development of an  
33 alternative energy capability in the form of incident solar  
34 energy.

35 (b) Toward this purpose, the Legislature intends to provide  
36 incentives for the production and sale of, and to set standards  
37 for, solar energy systems. Such standards must ~~shall~~ ensure that  
38 solar energy systems manufactured or sold within the state are  
39 effective and represent a high level of quality of materials,  
40 workmanship, and design.

41 (3) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this section, the term:

42 (a) "Center" means ~~is defined as~~ the Florida Solar Energy  
43 Center of the Board of Governors.

44 (b) "Solar energy systems" means ~~is defined as~~ equipment  
45 that ~~which~~ provides for the collection and use of incident solar  
46 energy for water heating, space heating or cooling, or other  
47 applications that ~~which~~ normally require ~~or would require~~ a  
48 conventional source of energy such as petroleum products,  
49 natural gas, or electricity, and that ~~which~~ performs primarily  
50 with solar energy. In ~~such other~~ systems in which solar energy  
51 is used in a supplemental way, only those components that ~~which~~  
52 collect and transfer solar energy are ~~shall be~~ included in this  
53 definition.

54 (4) ~~FLORIDA SOLAR ENERGY CENTER TO SET STANDARDS, REQUIRE~~  
55 ~~DISCLOSURE, SET TESTING FEES.—~~

56 (a) ~~The center shall develop and promulgate standards for~~  
57 ~~solar energy systems manufactured or sold in this state based on~~  
58 ~~the best currently available information and shall consult with~~

20091380e1

59 ~~scientists, engineers, or persons in research centers who are~~  
60 ~~engaged in the construction of, experimentation with, and~~  
61 ~~research of solar energy systems to properly identify the most~~  
62 ~~reliable designs and types of solar energy systems.~~

63 ~~(b)~~ The center shall select nationally-recognized standards  
64 for solar energy systems and establish criteria for testing the  
65 performance of solar energy systems and shall maintain the  
66 necessary capability for testing or evaluating the performance  
67 of solar energy systems. ~~The center may accept results of tests~~  
68 ~~on solar energy systems made by other organizations, companies,~~  
69 ~~or persons when such tests are conducted according to the~~  
70 ~~criteria established by the center and when the testing entity~~  
71 ~~has no vested interest in the manufacture, distribution or sale~~  
72 ~~of solar energy systems.~~

73 ~~(5)(e)~~ FEES. -The center shall charge ~~be entitled to receive~~  
74 a testing fee sufficient to cover the costs of such testing. All  
75 testing fees shall be transmitted by the center to the Chief  
76 Financial Officer to be deposited in the Solar Energy Center  
77 Testing Trust Fund, which is ~~hereby~~ created in the State  
78 Treasury, and disbursed for the payment of expenses incurred in  
79 testing solar energy systems.

80 ~~(6)(d)~~ All solar energy systems manufactured or sold in the  
81 state must meet the nationally-recognized standards selected  
82 ~~established~~ by the center and shall display accepted results of  
83 approved performance tests in a manner prescribed by the center.

84 Section 2. The Florida Building Commission is directed to  
85 make all changes to the building and energy codes necessary to  
86 conform those rules to this bill.

87 Section 3. The term of any person sitting as a member of

20091380e1

88 the Florida Energy and Climate Commission on March 3, 2009,  
89 whose appointment is not confirmed by the Senate during the 2009  
90 Regular Session or the 2010 Regular Session, shall be extended  
91 until completion of the 2010 Regular Session, except for any  
92 member who, during that time, the Senate expressly refuses to  
93 confirm.

94 Section 4. The Florida Energy and Climate Commission must  
95 obtain the approval of the joint Legislative Budget Commission  
96 before spending or disbursing any funds received from the  
97 federal government as part of a federal stimulus package.

98 Section 5. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.