

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to financial incentives for electric
3 vehicles; providing definitions; exempting certain
4 categories of electric vehicles and components from the
5 tax on sales, use, and other transactions for a certain
6 time; specifying criteria; providing for issuance of
7 qualifying compliance certificates by the Florida Solar
8 Energy Center; providing for credits against the corporate
9 income tax for certain fleets of certain categories of
10 vehicles for a certain time; providing criteria; providing
11 fleet requirements; providing for issuance of qualifying
12 compliance certificates by the Florida Solar Energy
13 Center; exempting certain vehicles from certain toll road
14 charges for a certain time; providing for issuance of
15 qualifying compliance certificates by the Florida Solar
16 Energy Center; providing for a one-time rebate for a
17 certain time to certain entities that install, operate,
18 and maintain certain qualifying public charging stations
19 for certain vehicles; specifying criteria; limiting the
20 number of rebates per year; providing application
21 requirements; providing for a one-time rebate for a
22 certain time to persons who convert their automobile to a
23 certain type of electric or hybrid electric automobile;
24 specifying criteria; providing application requirements;
25 specifying eligibility requirements and limitations;
26 limiting the number of rebates per year; providing for
27 administrative costs of the center; providing
28 appropriations; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. (1) DEFINITIONS.--For the purposes of this section, the term:

(a) "Automobile" means a car or light truck, including minivan, sports utility vehicle, or pickup truck, with 4 wheels and a curb weight of between 1,200 pounds and 5,800 pounds.

(b) "Center" means the Florida Solar Energy Center.

(c) "Highway-capable" means capable of maintaining a sustained top speed of at least 60 miles per hour.

(2) SALES AND USE TAX EXEMPTIONS.--

(a) From July 1, 2009, through December 31, 2019, the following categories of electric vehicles and electric vehicle components are exempt from all state, county, and local sales and use taxes upon sale or purchase by a state resident or business, as well as upon application for title transfer, registration, and tags to any county or state revenue or motor vehicle office:

1. Highway-capable all-electric or plug-in hybrid electric automobiles, either as original production or converted electric vehicles, having a battery pack capacity of at least 10 kilowatt-hours, calculated at the battery manufacturer's 1-hour discharge rate.

2. The following components designed and manufactured for highway-capable all-electric and plug-in hybrid electric automobiles:

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56 a. Electric propulsion motors with a continuous power
57 rating of at least 13 kilowatts and a peak power rating of at
58 least 34 kilowatts.

59 b. Direct current electric motor controllers and
60 integrated alternating current electric motor
61 inverter/controllers having:

62 (I) A maximum input voltage from the battery pack to the
63 controller that is at least 280 volts direct current.

64 (II) A maximum input current from the battery pack to the
65 controller that is at least 60 amperes direct current.

66 c. Battery chargers having a maximum output charging
67 voltage of at least 350 volts direct current and a maximum
68 output charging current of at least 8 amperes direct current.

69 d. Lithium-ion, lithium-polymer, and nickel-metal-hydride
70 batteries, consisting of individual cells of at least 40 amp-
71 hours capacity, specified at the battery manufacturer's 1-hour
72 discharge rate, when such batteries are purchased in an
73 aggregate volume of at least 10 kilowatt-hours, calculated at
74 the battery manufacturer's 1-hour discharge rate.

75 e. Vehicle and model-specific aftermarket conversion kits,
76 with a battery pack capacity of at least 5 kilowatt-hours,
77 calculated at the battery manufacturer's 1-hour discharge rate,
78 to convert either a gasoline or gasoline-electric hybrid
79 automobile into a highway-capable all-electric or plug-in hybrid
80 electric automobile, for which the converted vehicle has been
81 tested and certified as:

82 (I) Conforming to National Highway Traffic Safety
83 Administration Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards.

84 (II) Maintaining conformance for the converted vehicle to
85 the same United States Environmental Protection Agency emissions
86 standards as that of the unconverted vehicle.

87 (b) Qualifying compliance certificates shall be issued for
88 each individual vehicle by the center's Electric Drive
89 Transportation Technologies Group through its designated
90 regional inspection offices, which offices shall be selected by
91 and operated under the supervision and direction of the Electric
92 Drive Transportation Technologies Group.

93 (3) TAX CREDITS FOR CORPORATE FLEETS.--

94 (a) Any corporation located and doing business in this
95 state that files and pays the corporate income tax imposed by
96 chapter 220, Florida Statutes, and operates within the state a
97 fleet of 10 or more qualifying highway-capable all-electric or
98 plug-in hybrid electric vehicles is entitled to an annual tax
99 credit of \$1,000 per vehicle per year for each qualifying
100 vehicle each year from July 1, 2009, through June 30, 2014.

101 Qualifying vehicles are defined as those satisfying one of the
102 following categories:

103 1. Highway-capable all-electric or plug-in hybrid electric
104 automobiles, either as original production or converted electric
105 vehicles, having a battery pack capacity of at least 10
106 kilowatt-hours, calculated at the battery manufacturer's 1-hour
107 discharge rate.

108 2. Highway-capable all-electric or plug-in hybrid electric
109 automobiles that have been converted using conversion kits
110 conforming to Federal Government standards, defined as follows
111 and meeting the following criteria:

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112 a. Conforming to National Highway Traffic Safety
113 Administration Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards.

114 b. Maintaining conformance for the converted vehicle to
115 the same United States Environmental Protection Agency emissions
116 standards as that of the unconverted vehicle.

117 (b) A fleet may consist of any combination of vehicles
118 that qualify under subparagraph (a)1. or subparagraph (a)2. In
119 order to be counted in the fleet total, a qualifying vehicle
120 must have valid and current Florida registration and tags.

121 (c) Qualifying compliance certificates shall be issued for
122 each individual vehicle by the center's Electric Drive
123 Transportation Technologies Group through its designated
124 regional inspection offices, which offices shall be selected by
125 and operated under the supervision and direction of the Electric
126 Drive Transportation Technologies Group.

127 (d) Corporations operating fleets of fewer than 10
128 qualifying vehicles within the state are not eligible for the
129 tax credit.

130 (4) TOLL EXEMPTIONS.--

131 (a) From July 1, 2009, through December 31, 2019, highway-
132 capable all-electric and plug-in hybrid electric automobiles,
133 either as original production or converted electric vehicles,
134 with a battery pack capacity of at least 10 kilowatt-hours,
135 calculated at the battery manufacturer's 1-hour discharge rate,
136 shall be exempt from paying tolls on all toll roads in this
137 state using the SunPass system and shall be equipped with
138 special SunPass transponders for that purpose.

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139 (b) Qualifying compliance certificates shall be issued for
140 each individual vehicle by the center's Electric Drive
141 Transportation Technologies Group through its designated
142 regional inspection offices, which offices shall be selected by
143 and operated under the supervision and direction of the Electric
144 Drive Transportation Technologies Group.

145 (5) REBATES FOR INSTALLATION OF PUBLIC CHARGING
146 STATIONS.--

147 (a) From July 1, 2009, through December 31, 2016, any
148 business, commercial establishment, or academic, health care,
149 library, or other institution or any local, county, or state
150 governmental entity that installs, operates, and maintains a
151 qualifying public charging station for highway-capable electric
152 vehicles shall be eligible for a one-time \$2,000 rebate from the
153 state for each individual charging station installed within 12
154 months after the installation date. The location of the electric
155 vehicle charging station must be in a parking lot or garage, or
156 section thereof, that is open to the public, without
157 restriction. Electric vehicle charging stations installed in
158 parking lots and garages, or sections thereof, that require
159 permits or have other restrictions making them inaccessible to
160 the general public shall disqualify the site owner and operator
161 from eligibility for the \$2,000 rebate. Only the site owner and
162 operator shall be eligible for the rebate, not an installing
163 contractor or an equipment or material vendor, supplier, or
164 consultant. In order to qualify for the rebate, the electric
165 vehicle charging station must satisfy all of the following
166 criteria:

167 1. The charging station equipment must comply with
 168 National Electrical Code Article 625 pertaining to 208 to 240
 169 volt public charging stations.

170 2. The charging station equipment must conform to Society
 171 of Automotive Engineers J1772 Standard for 208 to 240 volt
 172 public charging stations.

173 3. The charging station equipment must have an
 174 Underwriters Laboratory listing.

175 4. The charging station equipment must be capable of
 176 operating at 208 to 240 volts alternating current input from the
 177 electrical grid and have a capability of providing at least 24
 178 amperes to the electric vehicle at 208 to 240 volts alternating
 179 current.

180 (b) The rebate program shall be capped and limited to the
 181 first 100 qualifying charging station applications in each
 182 calendar year, requiring a maximum appropriation and funding by
 183 the state of \$200,000 per year. Applications for the rebate
 184 shall be submitted to and administered by the center's Electric
 185 Drive Transportation Technologies Group. Rebate payments shall
 186 be disbursed by the Department of Revenue upon notification and
 187 authorization of such payments by the Electric Drive
 188 Transportation Technologies Group.

189 (6) REBATES FOR CONVERSION KITS CONFORMING TO FEDERAL
 190 GOVERNMENT STANDARDS.--

191 (a) From July 1, 2009, through December 31, 2013, any
 192 resident of or business in this state shall be eligible for a
 193 one-time \$2,000 rebate from the state within 12 months after a
 194 conversion, at a qualifying kit manufacturer's authorized

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195 installation facility in this state, of his or her or its
196 automobile to a highway-capable all-electric or plug-in hybrid
197 electric automobile. To qualify, the conversion kit must be a
198 vehicle and model-specific aftermarket conversion kit, with a
199 battery pack capacity of at least 5 kilowatt-hours, calculated
200 at the battery manufacturer's 1-hour discharge rate, to convert
201 either a gasoline or gasoline-electric hybrid automobile into
202 either an all-electric or plug-in hybrid electric automobile,
203 for which the converted vehicle has been tested and certified
204 as:

205 1. Conforming to National Highway Traffic Safety
206 Administration Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards.

207 2. Maintaining conformance for the converted vehicle to
208 the same United States Environmental Protection Agency emissions
209 standards as that of the unconverted vehicle.

210 (b) Applications for the rebate shall be submitted to and
211 administered by the center's Electric Drive Transportation
212 Technologies Group. Rebate payments shall be disbursed by the
213 Department of Revenue upon notification and authorization of
214 such payments by the Electric Drive Transportation Technologies
215 Group.

216 (c) In order to be eligible for the rebate, the converted
217 vehicle must have valid and current Florida registration and
218 tags.

219 (d) Only the owner of the vehicle at the time of
220 conversion shall be eligible for the rebate. Subsequent owners
221 of the converted vehicle are not eligible for the rebate. As the
222 rebate program administrator, the center's Electric Drive

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223 Transportation Technologies Group shall maintain a registry of
224 the vehicle identification numbers of converted vehicles for
225 which a rebate has been paid in order to prevent duplicate
226 applications for the same vehicle by subsequent owners, which
227 shall be denied.

228 (e) The rebate program shall be capped and limited to the
229 first 100 qualifying converted vehicles in each calendar year,
230 requiring a maximum appropriation and funding by the state of
231 \$200,000 per year.

232 (7) ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.--It is estimated that the
233 center's administrative costs relating to this section will
234 require the appropriation and funding of an additional \$200,000
235 per year, which shall be specifically designated for and
236 committed to the center's Electric Drive Transportation
237 Technologies Group, supplemental to Florida Solar Energy
238 Center's general budget.

239 Section 2. (1) The sum of \$200,000 per year for fiscal
240 years 2009-2010 through 2015-2016 is appropriated from the
241 General Revenue Fund to the Department of Revenue to administer
242 subsection (5) of section 1.

243 (2) The sum of \$200,000 per year for fiscal years 2009-
244 2010 through 2012-2013 is appropriated from the General Revenue
245 Fund to the Department of Revenue to administer subsection (6)
246 of section 1.

247 (3) The sum of \$200,000 per year for fiscal years 2009-
248 2010 through 2018-2019 is appropriated from the General Revenue
249 Fund to the Florida Solar Energy Center to administer subsection
250 (7) of section 1.

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Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2009.