A bill to be entitled

An act relating to energy efficiency; amending s. 377.806, F.S.; reestablishing a period of time for which residents of the state are eligible to receive rebates for specified solar energy systems under the Solar Energy System Incentives Program; revising the rebate amount for eligible solar photovoltaic systems; providing a schedule for rebate amounts based on the total wattage of the system; revising the maximum allowable rebate amounts for solar photovoltaic systems; clarifying eligibility provisions for the installation of specified thermal roofs; revising provisions relating to the determination and publication of rebate availability information; providing for the issuance of specified rebates; providing appropriations for the Solar Energy System Incentives Program and the Low-income Emergency Home Repair Program; providing an effective date.

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

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Section 1. Subsections (1), (2), (3), and (6) of section 377.806, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

377.806 Solar Energy System Incentives Program.-

(1) PURPOSE.—The Solar Energy System Incentives Program is established within the commission to provide financial incentives for the purchase and installation of solar energy systems. Any resident of the state who purchases and installs a new solar energy system of 2 kilowatts or larger for a solar

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photovoltaic system, a solar energy system that provides at least 50 percent of a building's hot water consumption for a solar thermal system, or a solar thermal pool heater, from July 1, 2011 2006, through June 30, 2015 2010, is eligible for a rebate on a portion of the purchase price of that solar energy system.

(2) SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC SYSTEM INCENTIVE. -

- (a) Eligibility requirements.—A solar photovoltaic system qualifies for a rebate if:
- 1. The system is installed by a state-licensed master electrician, electrical contractor, or solar contractor.
- 2. The system complies with state interconnection standards as provided by the Florida Public Service Commission.
- 3. The system complies with all applicable building codes as defined by the Florida Building Code.
- (b) Rebate amounts.—The rebate amount shall be set at \$2.50 \$4 per watt for the first year, \$2 per watt for the second and third years, and \$1.50 per watt for each subsequent year, based on the total wattage rating of the system. The maximum allowable rebate per solar photovoltaic system installation shall be as follows:
 - 1. Ten Twenty thousand dollars for a residence.
- 2. <u>Fifty One hundred</u> thousand dollars for a place of business, a publicly owned or operated facility, or a facility owned or operated by a private, not-for-profit organization, including condominiums or apartment buildings.
 - (3) SOLAR THERMAL SYSTEM INCENTIVE.
 - (a) Eligibility requirements.—A solar thermal system

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qualifies for a rebate if:

- 1. The system is installed by a state-licensed solar or plumbing contractor or, for the installation of a roofing contractor installing standing seam hybrid thermal roofs, a state-licensed roofing contractor.
- 2. The system complies with all applicable building codes as defined by the Florida Building Code.
- (b) Rebate amounts.—Authorized rebates for installation of solar thermal systems shall be as follows:
 - 1. Five hundred dollars for a residence.
- 2. Fifteen dollars per 1,000 Btu up to a maximum of \$5,000 for a place of business, a publicly owned or operated facility, or a facility owned or operated by a private, not-for-profit organization, including condominiums or apartment buildings.
 - (6) REBATE AVAILABILITY.-
- (a) The commission shall determine and publish on a monthly regular basis the total number of rebates issued, the amount of each rebate issued, the amount of rebate funds remaining in the current each fiscal year, and a statement that rebate applications will not be accepted after funds for the current fiscal year are depleted.
- (b) The total dollar amount of all rebates issued is subject to the total amount of appropriations in any fiscal year for this program. If funds are insufficient during the current fiscal year, any requests for rebates received during that fiscal year may be processed during the following fiscal year. Requests for rebates received in a fiscal year that are processed during the following fiscal year shall be given

priority over requests for rebates received during the following fiscal year.

- issuing any new rebates, the commission shall issue rebates for applications that were approved through June 30, 2010, but were not paid due to insufficient funds. Such rebates shall be issued in the order the applications were approved.
- Section 2. (1) For the 2010-2011 fiscal year, the sum of \$130 million in nonrecurring funds is appropriated from the General Revenue Fund to the Florida Energy and Climate Commission for the purpose of administering the Solar Energy System Incentives Program pursuant to s. 377.806, Florida Statutes. The commission shall allocate \$30 million of such funds to issue rebates for applications that were approved through June 30, 2010, but were not paid due to insufficient funds.
- (2) For the 2010-2011 fiscal year, the sum of \$50 million in nonrecurring funds is appropriated from the General Revenue Fund to the Department of Community Affairs for the purpose of administering the Low-income Emergency Home Repair Program pursuant to s. 420.36, Florida Statutes.
 - Section 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.