

By Senator Bennett

21-01336-12

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1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to solar energy system rebates;
3 authorizing the Department of Agriculture and Consumer
4 Services to pay certain rebate amounts pursuant to the
5 Solar Energy System Incentives Program; providing
6 construction; providing an appropriation; providing
7 that obtaining additional rebate funds based on the
8 submission of information the applicant knows to be
9 false constitutes theft and is subject to specified
10 penalties; providing an effective date.

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

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14 Section 1. (1) As provided in this section, the total
15 amount appropriated in this act shall be used by the Department
16 of Agriculture and Consumer Services to pay the difference
17 between the rebate amount authorized by the Solar Energy System
18 Incentives Program established in s. 377.806, Florida Statutes,
19 and the rebate amount previously approved and paid to eligible
20 applicants by the former Florida Energy and Climate Commission
21 or the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services pursuant
22 to section 1, chapter 2010-282, Laws of Florida, as amended by
23 section 525, chapter 2011-142, Laws of Florida.

24 (2) The Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
25 shall determine the amount to be paid to eligible applicants
26 pursuant to this section. Receipt of a payment pursuant to this
27 section does not require a supplemental application process.

28 (3) This section does not reconstitute the expired Solar
29 Energy System Incentives Program established in s. 377.806,

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30 Florida Statutes.

31 Section 2. For the 2012-2013 fiscal year, and to
32 exclusively implement section 1, the sum of \$26 million in
33 nonrecurring funds is appropriated from the General Revenue Fund
34 to the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

35 Section 3. An applicant who obtains additional rebate funds
36 pursuant to this act based on the submission of information that
37 the applicant knows to be false commits theft, punishable as
38 provided in s. 812.014, Florida Statutes.

39 Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2012.