

By the Committee on Regulated Industries; and Senators Gibson and Powell

580-02616-22

20221678c1

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to the Energy Equity Task Force;
3 creating the task force adjunct to the Department of
4 Agriculture and Consumer Services for a specified
5 purpose; providing for the membership and duties of
6 the task force; requiring the department to provide
7 staffing and administrative support to the task force;
8 requiring the task force to submit a report to certain
9 officials by a specified date; providing for
10 expiration of the task force; providing an effective
11 date.

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

14
15 Section 1. Energy Equity Task Force.—

16 (1) The Energy Equity Task Force, a task force as defined
17 in s. 20.03(8), Florida Statutes, is created adjunct to the
18 Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to provide
19 recommendations for fostering a fair and equitable transition of
20 this state's energy infrastructure to renewable energy
21 technologies within minority, underserved, rural, and low-income
22 communities. The task force shall comply with the requirements
23 of s. 20.052, Florida Statutes.

24 (2) The task force shall consist, at a minimum, of the
25 following 11 members who reflect the ethnic and gender diversity
26 of this state:

27 (a) The following private citizen members appointed by the
28 Commissioner of Agriculture:

29 1. Four representatives from minority, underserved, rural,

580-02616-22

20221678c1

30 or low-income communities from different regions of this state.

31 2. At least one environmental justice expert.

32 3. At least one representative from the electrical workers
33 profession.

34 4. At least two energy industry liaisons.

35 5. At least one representative from a statewide
36 environmentally focused group.

37 (b) One member appointed by the President of the Senate.

38 (c) One member appointed by the Speaker of the House of
39 Representatives.

40 (3) The task force shall:

41 (a) Recommend appropriate policies, including any necessary
42 statutory changes, for the equitable siting of energy
43 infrastructure throughout this state, including, but not limited
44 to:

45 1. The siting of utility-scale solar arrays in
46 nonresidential neighborhoods, nonrural residential communities,
47 and rural communities; and

48 2. The siting of industrial solar array facility sites in a
49 manner compatible with county or municipality comprehensive
50 plans.

51 (b) Examine strategies to assist minority, underserved,
52 rural, and low-income communities in transitioning to energy
53 efficiency, including energy-efficient appliances,
54 weatherization, and other methods, to benefit from lower energy
55 costs.

56 (4) The department shall provide staffing and
57 administrative support to the task force in performing its
58 duties.

580-02616-22

20221678c1

59 (5) The task force shall submit a report of its
60 recommendations to the Governor, the Commissioner of
61 Agriculture, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the
62 House of Representatives by September 30, 2023, and this section
63 shall expire upon submission of the report.

64 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2022.