

Fiscal Estimate - 2021 Session

Original
 Updated
 Corrected
 Supplemental

LRB Number 21-1902/2	Introduction Number SB-490
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Description
 authorizing community solar programs and granting rule-making authority

Fiscal Effect

State:

No State Fiscal Effect
 Indeterminate

<input type="checkbox"/> Increase Existing Appropriations <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Existing Appropriations <input type="checkbox"/> Create New Appropriations	<input type="checkbox"/> Increase Existing Revenues <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Existing Revenues	<input type="checkbox"/> Increase Costs - May be possible to absorb within agency's budget <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Costs
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Local:

No Local Government Costs
 Indeterminate

1. <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Costs <input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Costs <input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory	3. <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Revenue <input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Revenue <input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory	5. Types of Local Government Units Affected <input type="checkbox"/> Towns <input type="checkbox"/> Village <input type="checkbox"/> Cities <input type="checkbox"/> Counties <input type="checkbox"/> Others <input type="checkbox"/> School Districts <input type="checkbox"/> WTCS Districts
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Fund Sources Affected	Affected Ch. 20 Appropriations
<input type="checkbox"/> GPR <input type="checkbox"/> FED <input type="checkbox"/> PRO <input type="checkbox"/> PRS <input type="checkbox"/> SEG <input type="checkbox"/> SEGS	

Agency/Prepared By	Authorized Signature	Date
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Fiscal Estimate Narratives

PSC 8/12/2021

LRB Number	21-1902/2	Introduction Number	SB-490	Estimate Type	Original
Description authorizing community solar programs and granting rule-making authority					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

2021 SB 490 allows for the establishment of community solar programs. In a community solar program, retail electric customers subscribe to a community solar facility and receive credits on their electric bill for electricity produced by the facility. The bill requires that both the customer and community solar facility be in the same electric utility service territory and limits the annual value of bill credits to the subscriber's average annual electric bill. 2021 SB 490 specifies that the community solar facilities are subject to applicable zoning ordinances. Any exceptions must be approved by two-thirds vote of the governing body of the municipality.

2021 SB 490 requires the Public Service Commission (Commission) to promulgate rules related to the program. Among other things, the rules must reasonably allow for the creation and financing of the facilities, ensure participation opportunities, allow for the transferability and portability of subscriptions, allow utilities to recover costs of applying credits to subscribers' bills, and modify existing interconnection standards, feeds and processes to facility interconnection of the facility with the electric distribution grid. The bill requires electric utilities to include options in their Commission tariff filings that will allow bill credits for subscribers. Under the bill, the Commission shall establish an applicable bill credit rate to be used to calculate bill credits for the program. The work associated with the Commission duties outlined in 2021 SB 490, including rulemaking, tariff review, and bill credit calculation, can be absorbed with existing staff resources.

Local Fiscal Effect

2021 SB 490 requires an electric utility whose service territory includes a community solar facility to credit the electric bills of the subscribers and outlines other administrative responsibilities of the electric utility. Additionally, as noted above, the electric utilities must include options in their tariff filings with the Commission that will allow bill credits for community solar facility subscribers. Municipal electric utilities with community solar programs may need to devote additional resources to the billing process as well as tariff filings. The local fiscal effect is indeterminate and will vary by utility.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications