

Act No. 99 (H.702). Public service; energy; conservation and development

An act relating to self-generation and net metering

This act makes two sets of changes to the statutes governing net metering systems.

First, for effect in 2014, this act amends the existing statute to address the following topics, among others: the cumulative output capacity of all net metering systems, the capacity of individual solar net metering systems, the required additional incentive for those solar systems, the ownership of renewable energy credits associated with net metering systems, the creation of a pilot project under which an electric cooperative would install net metering systems, and the ability of an electric company whose power supply portfolio is 90 percent renewable to implement an alternative net metering program.

Second, for effect in 2017, the act would repeal the existing net metering statute and replace it with a statute that provides policy direction to the Public Service Board for a revised net metering program that would be governed by Board rules. The Board would develop these rules through a process to occur before 2017. This process would include a report by the Department of Public Service (DPS) to the Board followed by workshop and rulemaking proceedings on a revised program and a report by the Board to the General Assembly in 2016.

The act also provides direction to the DPS in its advocacy concerning the region's electric system and requires the DPS to submit a report on whether energy contracts in the so-called "SPEED" program should include ownership of the energy's environmental attributes.

Multiple effective dates, beginning on April 1, 2014