

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
  
10  
11  
  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20

S.48

Introduced by Senators Mullin, Collamore, and Flory

Referred to Committee on

Date:

Subject: Energy; land use; municipal planning and development; public  
service; solar generation; setbacks; screening

Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to allow  
municipalities to adopt setback and screening requirements that apply to solar  
electric generation plants.

An act relating to setback and screening requirements for solar generation  
plants

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

Sec. 1. 24 V.S.A. § 4414(15) is added to read:

(15) Solar plants; setbacks; screening. Notwithstanding any contrary  
provision of section 4413 of this title or 30 V.S.A. chapter 5 or 89, a  
municipality may adopt bylaws that require a plant that generates electricity  
from solar energy to comply with setback and screening requirements. These  
requirements shall not prohibit or have the effect of prohibiting the installation  
of such a plant and shall not have the effect of interfering with its intended  
functional use. In this section, “plant” shall have the same meaning as in

1     30 V.S.A. § 8002 and “screening” includes landscaping, vegetation, fencing,  
2     and topographic features.

3     Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

4     This act shall take effect on passage.