

H.598

Introduced by Representative James of Manchester

Referred to Committee on

Date:

Subject: Public service; energy; renewable energy; solar energy; portable solar  
energy generation devices

Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to allow portable  
solar energy generation devices to be installed without a certificate of public  
good.

An act relating to portable solar energy generation devices

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

Sec. 1. 30 V.S.A. § 201 is amended to read:

§ 201. DEFINITIONS

As used in this chapter:

\* \* \*

(9) “Portable solar energy generation device” means a movable  
photovoltaic generation device that:

(A) has a maximum power output to the electric grid of not more  
than 1,200 watts;

1           (B) is designed to be connected to a building's electrical system via  
2           an electrical cord plugged into a receptacle;

3           (C) is intended primarily to offset part of the customer's electricity  
4           consumption;

5           (D) includes a feature that prevents the system from energizing the  
6           building's electrical system during a power outage;

7           (E) is certified by Underwriters Laboratories or an equivalent  
8           Nationally Recognized Testing Laboratory for use in the United States; and

9           (F) is connected to a building that is connected to the electric grid.

10       Sec. 2. 30 V.S.A. § 256 is added to read:

11       § 256. PORTABLE SOLAR ENERGY GENERATION DEVICES

12       (a) The installation of a portable solar energy generation device shall not be  
13       required to comply with the requirements of section 248 of this chapter or be  
14       required to obtain an interconnection agreement with an electric distribution  
15       company.

16       (b) On or before September 10, 2026, the Public Utility Commission, in  
17       consultation with the Division of Fire Safety and the electric distribution  
18       companies, shall develop a simple notification form for customers who install  
19       portable solar energy devices, which shall, at a minimum, include the name of  
20       the customer and contact information, the address of installation, the  
21       customer's electric utility, and the meter number. The form shall be available

1 in an online version and a printable version. An electric distribution company  
2 may require customers to submit the notification form to the company after  
3 installation of the device.

4 (c) An electric distribution company shall not require a customer using a  
5 portable solar energy generation device to:

6 (1) obtain the company's approval before installing or using the device;

7 (2) pay any fee or charge related to the device; or

8 (3) install any additional controls or equipment beyond what is  
9 integrated into the device.

10 (d) A portable solar energy generation device shall not be eligible for net  
11 metering.

12 (e) A portable solar energy device in a public building, as defined in 20  
13 V.S.A. § 2730, shall be used in a manner that complies with all applicable  
14 requirements of the most recent Fire and Building Safety Code adopted by the  
15 Division of Fire Safety.

16 Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

17 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2026.