

1 TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

2 The Committee on Energy and Digital Infrastructure to which was referred
3 Senate Bill No. 202 entitled “An act relating to portable solar energy
4 generation devices” respectfully reports that it has considered the same and
5 recommends that the House propose to the Senate that the bill be amended by
6 striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the
7 following:

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

9 § 201. DEFINITIONS

10 As used in this chapter:

11 * * *

12 (9) “Plug-in photovoltaic device” means a photovoltaic generation
13 device that:

14 (A) is designed to be connected to a building’s electrical system via
15 an electrical cord plugged into a receptacle;

16 (B) includes a feature that prevents the system from energizing the
17 building’s electrical system during a power outage;

18 (C) complies with UL 3700 for plug-in photovoltaic systems by UL
19 Solutions or an equivalent certification by an equivalent Nationally

20 Recognized Testing Laboratory for use in the United States; and

21 (D) is connected to a building that is connected to the electric grid.

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

2 § 256. PLUG-IN PHOTOVOLTAIC DEVICES

3 (a) A customer may install one or more plug-in photovoltaic devices per
4 electric meter if the devices have a maximum combined inverter capacity of
5 not more than 1,200 watts. Plug-in photovoltaic devices shall only be
6 connected to systems using smart meters. A customer shall ensure a device is
7 temporarily but securely attached to the ground or a structure.

8 (b) The installation of a plug-in photovoltaic device that complies with
9 subsection (a) of this section shall not be required to comply with the
10 requirements of section 248 of this chapter, shall not be required to obtain an
11 interconnection agreement with an electric distribution company, and shall not
12 otherwise be subject to the jurisdiction of the Public Utility Commission.

13 (c) An electric distribution company shall not require a customer using a
14 plug-in photovoltaic device that complies with subsection (a) of this section to:

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

16 (2) pay any fee or charge related to the installation of the device; or

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

19 (d) Nothing in this section shall prevent an electric distribution company
20 from recovering costs associated with the overloading of the service provided
21 due to the presence of a plug-in photovoltaic device.

1 (e) A customer with a net metering system shall not also install a plug-in
2 photovoltaic device. A plug-in photovoltaic device shall not be eligible for net
3 metering. Generation exported to the grid by a plug-in photovoltaic device
4 shall not be compensated by an electric distribution company.

5 (f) A plug-in photovoltaic device in a public building, as defined in 20
6 V.S.A. § 2730, shall be used in a manner that complies with all applicable
7 requirements of the most recent Fire and Building Safety Code adopted by the
8 Division of Fire Safety.

9 Sec. 3. 24 V.S.A. § 4413(g) is amended to read:

10 (g) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, a bylaw adopted
11 under this chapter shall not:

12 (1) Regulate the installation, operation, and maintenance of a plug-in
13 photovoltaic device or, on a flat roof of an otherwise complying structure, of a
14 solar energy device that heats water or space or generates electricity. For the
15 purpose of this subdivision, “flat roof” means a roof having a slope less than or
16 equal to five degrees.

17 (2) Prohibit or have the effect of prohibiting the installation of solar
18 collectors not exempted from regulation under subdivision (1) of this
19 subsection, clotheslines, or other energy devices based on renewable resources.

20 Sec. 4. 27 V.S.A. § 544 is amended to read:

21 § 544. ENERGY DEVICES BASED ON RENEWABLE RESOURCES

1 (a) No deed restrictions, covenants, or similar binding agreements running
2 with the land shall prohibit or have the effect of prohibiting solar collectors,
3 clotheslines, or other energy devices based on renewable resources from being
4 installed on or, for a plug-in photovoltaic device as defined in 30 V.S.A. § 201,
5 appurtenant to buildings erected on the lots or parcels covered by the deed
6 restrictions, covenants, or binding agreements. A property owner may not be
7 denied permission to install solar collectors or other energy devices based on
8 renewable resources by any entity granted the power or right in any deed
9 restriction, covenant, or similar binding agreement to approve, forbid, control,
10 or direct alteration of property with respect to residential dwellings. For
11 purposes of this subsection, that entity may determine the specific location
12 where solar collectors may be installed on the roof within an orientation to the
13 south or within 45° east or west of due south, provided that this determination
14 does not impair the effective operation of the solar collectors.

15 * * *

16 (c) The legislative intent in enacting this section is to protect the public
17 health, safety, and welfare by encouraging the development and use of
18 renewable resources in order to conserve and protect the value of land,
19 buildings, and resources by preventing measures that will have the ultimate
20 effect, whether or not intended, of driving the costs of owning and operating
21 commercial or residential property beyond the capacity of private owners to

1 maintain. This section shall not apply to patio railings in condominiums,
2 cooperatives, or apartments, except for a plug-in photovoltaic device.

3 Sec. 5. EFFECTIVE DATE

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

5 and that after passage the title of the bill be amended to read: “An act relating
6 to plug-in photovoltaic devices”

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12 (Committee vote: _____)

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Representative _____

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FOR THE COMMITTEE