

2022 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 806

BY REPRESENTATIVE FREEMAN

COMMERCIAL REGULATIONS: Provides relative to solar and battery storage

1 AN ACT

2 To enact Chapter 61 of Title 51 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, to be comprised
3 of R.S. 51:3215 through 3218, relative to solar and battery storage; to provide for the
4 Solar Storage Initiative Program; to provide for the purpose and intent of the
5 program, including to make solar energy storage more accessible to certain
6 individuals; to provide for the administration of the program by the Department of
7 Economic Development; to provide for eligibility; to provide for definitions; and to
8 provide for related matters.

9 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

10 Section 1. Chapter 61 of Title 51 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950,
11 comprised of R.S. 3215 through 3218, is hereby enacted to read as follows:

12 CHAPTER 61. SOLAR STORAGE INCENTIVE PROGRAM

13 §3215. Short title

14 This Chapter shall be known and may be cited as "The Solar Storage
15 Incentive Program".

16 §3216. Purpose; intent

17 A. This purpose of this Chapter is to promote the adoption of resilient,
18 customer-sited systems in the state by making the benefits of integrated solar and
19 battery storage systems accessible to both the state's most critical service providers
20 and the state's most vulnerable populations during power outages.

1 B. The Solar Storage Incentive Program is intended to support the following
2 objectives:

3 (1) Provide clean, resilient, backup power supply to prioritized facilities
4 during power outages.

5 (2) Reduce cost, challenges, and dependence on gas fuel supply for backup
6 power solutions.

7 (3) Promote healthy alternatives to gas generators and the deadly risks of
8 carbon monoxide.

9 (4) Deliver significant annual energy savings during times of normal power
10 grid operations resulting in lower operating expenses for critical and community-
11 oriented facilities.

12 (5) Support job growth, innovation, and economic development within the
13 community microgrid industry.

14 (6) Promote environmental stewardship as part of the state's climate action
15 plan.

16 §3217. Definitions

17 As used in this Chapter, the following terms have the following meanings:

18 (1) "Battery energy storage system", hereinafter "BESS", means an
19 electrochemical device that charges or collects energy from the grid or a power plant
20 and then discharges that energy at a later time to provide electricity or other grid
21 services when needed.

22 (2) "Critical facilities" means police stations, fire stations, emergency and
23 disaster response providers, multifamily affordable housing, community and senior
24 centers, independent living centers, hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, nursing
25 homes, blood banks, health care facilities, dialysis centers, hospice facilities, cooling
26 centers, medical facilities, houses of worship, homeless shelters, grocery stores,
27 corner stores, and food banks.

28 (3) "Solar photovoltaic system", hereinafter "solar PV", means an electric
29 power system designed to supply usable solar owner by means of photovoltaics.

1 §3218. Administration; eligibility

2 A. The Solar Storage Initiative Program shall be implemented and
3 administered by the Department of Economic Development, hereinafter referred to
4 as the "department". The department shall adopt and promulgate such rules as are
5 necessary for the efficient and effective administration of this program in keeping
6 with the purposes for which it was enacted.

7 B. Eligible households or critical facilities may earn, apply for, and shall be
8 granted a rebate in a manner to be determined by the department under the rules
9 adopted to administer this program as required by Subsection A of this Section.

10 C. Eligible households and critical facilities shall be located in low-income
11 communities, communities of color, or environmental justice communities.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HB 806 Original

2022 Regular Session

Freeman

Abstract: Creates the Solar Storage Initiative Program to make solar and battery storage systems accessible to households and critical facilities in low-income areas.

Proposed law creates the Solar Storage Initiative Program to provide rebates for the use of integrated solar and battery storage systems during power outages in order to make them accessible to eligible households and critical facilities.

Proposed law defines "battery energy storage system", "critical facilities", and "solar photovoltaic".

Proposed law grants LED the authority to administer the Solar Storage Initiative Program and to promulgate rules necessary for its administration.

Proposed law requires that eligible households and critical facilities be located in low-income communities, communities, of color, or environmental justice communities.

(Adds R.S. 51:3215-3218)