

SB 124 - AS INTRODUCED

2017 SESSION

17-0911

06/05

SENATE BILL ***124***

AN ACT establishing a commission to study municipal regulation and incentives for solar energy.

SPONSORS: Sen. Fuller Clark, Dist 21; Sen. Feltes, Dist 15; Rep. Backus, Hills. 19; Rep. S. Harvey, Hills. 29; Rep. Oxenham, Sull. 1

COMMITTEE: Energy and Natural Resources

ANALYSIS

This bill establishes a commission to study municipal regulation and incentives for solar energy.

Explanation: Matter added to current law appears in ***bold italics***.
 Matter removed from current law appears ~~[in brackets and struck through]~~
 Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Seventeen

AN ACT establishing a commission to study municipal regulation and incentives for solar energy.

Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:

1 1 New Section. Commission to Study Municipal Regulation and Incentives for Solar Energy.
2 Amend RSA 72 by inserting after section 64 the following new section:

3 72:64-a Commission to Study Municipal Regulation and Incentives for Solar Energy.

4 I. There is established a commission to study municipal regulation and incentives for solar
5 energy.

6 II. The members of the commission shall be as follows:

7 (a) Two members of the senate, appointed by the president of the senate.

8 (b) Two members of the house of representatives, appointed by the speaker of the house
9 of representatives.

10 (c) A member of the energy efficiency and sustainable energy board, appointed by the
11 chairman of the public utilities commission.

12 (d) The executive director of the New Hampshire Municipal Association, or designee.

13 (e) The executive director of the New Hampshire Sustainable Energy Association, or
14 designee.

15 (f) The chairperson of the site evaluation committee, or designee.

16 (g) One public member who manages solar energy projects in the private sector,
17 appointed by the governor.

18 III. Legislative members of the commission shall receive mileage at the legislative rate
19 when attending to the duties of the commission.

20 IV. The commission shall:

21 (a) Study municipal regulation of residential, commercial, and distributed generation
22 solar projects, including streamlining and standardized regulation as well as possible municipal
23 incentives for solar projects.

24 (b) Review and evaluate the impact of current state law, the current practices of
25 municipalities across the state, and what other states are doing to incentive solar at the local level.

26 V. The members of the commission shall elect a chairperson from among the members. The
27 first meeting of the commission shall be called by the first-named senate member. The first meeting
28 of the commission shall be held within 45 days of the effective date of this section. Five members of
29 the commission shall constitute a quorum.

30 VI. The commission shall report its findings and any recommendations for proposed

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1 legislation to the president of the senate, the speaker of the house of representatives, the senate
2 clerk, the house clerk, the governor, and the state library on or before November 1, 2017.

3 2 Repeal. RSA 72:64-a, relative to the commission to study municipal regulation and incentives
4 for solar energy, is repealed.

5 3 Effective Date.

6 I. Section 2 of this act shall take effect November 1, 2017.

7 II. The remainder of this act shall take effect upon its passage.