
BILL REQUEST - CODE REVISER'S OFFICE

BILL REQ. #: S-3979.1/16

ATTY/TYPIST: ML:amh

BRIEF DESCRIPTION: Concerning a utility owning a community solar project inside or outside of its service territory in Washington state.

1 AN ACT Relating to a utility owning a community solar project
2 inside or outside of its service territory in Washington state; and
3 adding a new section to chapter 82.16 RCW.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 82.16
6 RCW to read as follows:

7 (1) Any utility may organize, administer, and own a community
8 solar project for its ratepayers. A utility-owned solar energy system
9 must be voluntarily funded by the utility's ratepayers where, in
10 exchange for their financial support, the utility gives contributors
11 a payment or credit on their utility bill for the value of the
12 electricity produced by the project. The solar energy system may be
13 located on property owned by an individual, business, nonprofit
14 organization, or local governmental entity in Washington either
15 inside or outside the local utility service territory, provided it is
16 with the consent of the local utility and that all of these
17 properties are maintained and operated subject to regulations the
18 local governmental entity may prescribe.

19 (2) Public utility districts and joint operating agencies
20 organized under chapter 43.52 RCW have the power and authority to
21 enter into agreements with each other to construct and own a joint

1 community solar project in order to maximize direct sunlight as an
2 energy source through appropriate siting of solar energy systems.

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