

SB 1519 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Finance and Revenue

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Meeting Dates: 2/16, 2/23

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Grants property tax exemption for proportion of community solar project that is owned by residential customers or leased by residential subscribers. Takes effect for property tax years on or after July 1, 2022.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Renewable and alternative energy.
- Rooftop solar.
- Access to community solar projects.
- Net metering.
- Commercial solar projects.

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Currently, several statutes address solar projects. For larger projects, under ORS 307.175, property constituting a solar project located in an unincorporated county area is exempt from property taxes when an agreement has been made between the governing body of the county and the owner of the solar project. That tax exemption program requires a payment in lieu of tax or PiLoT, and a summary can be found in the Department of Revenue's Tax Expenditure Report, TER 2.047. Small projects, which may fall under the property tax exemption for alternative energy systems, exempts net metered solar, including those on residential property. A summary of this program can be found in TER 2.113.