

A-Engrossed
House Bill 3418

Ordered by the House March 23
Including House Amendments dated March 23

Sponsored by Representative OWENS; Representatives ANDERSEN, HELM, Senator GOLDEN

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure.

Extends to January 2, 2029, sunset of program for provision of rebate for construction or installation of solar electric system or paired solar and storage system, for residential customer or low-income service provider, on real property in Oregon. Modifies definition of "paired solar and storage system."

Requires State Department of Energy, under renewable energy production system grant program, to waive requirement that construction begin within 12 months of grant award if construction was delayed because of supply chain or workforce disruptions or shortages related to COVID-19 pandemic and construction began between March 1, 2020, and March 31, 2022.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to State Department of Energy incentive programs; creating new provisions; and amending
3 sections 1 and 5, chapter 655, Oregon Laws 2019.

4 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

5 **SECTION 1.** Section 5, chapter 655, Oregon Laws 2019, is amended to read:

6 **Sec. 5.** (1) Sections 1 to 4, **chapter 655, Oregon Laws 2019**, [of this 2019 Act] are repealed on
7 January 2, [2024] **2029**.

8 (2) Any moneys remaining in the Rooftop Solar Incentive Fund on the date of the repeal speci-
9 fied in subsection (1) of this section that are unexpended, unobligated and not subject to any con-
10 ditions shall be transferred to the General Fund.

11 **SECTION 2.** Section 1, chapter 655, Oregon Laws 2019, is amended to read:

12 **Sec. 1.** As used in sections 1 to 4, **chapter 655, Oregon Laws 2019** [of this 2019 Act]:

13 (1) "Contractor" means a person whose trade or business consists of offering for sale solar
14 electric systems or paired solar and storage systems or of providing construction, installation or
15 design services for solar electric systems or paired solar and storage systems.

16 (2) "Electric utility" has the meaning given that term in ORS 757.600.

17 (3) "Energy storage system" means commercially available technology that is capable of retain-
18 ing energy, storing the energy for a period of time and transmitting the energy after storage.

19 (4) "Low-income service provider" means a nonresidential customer that provides health, dental,
20 social, financial, energy conservation or other assistive services to low or moderate income persons
21 or low or moderate income households, as further defined by the State Department of Energy by
22 rule.

23 (5) "Net cost" means the actual cost of the purchase, construction and installation of a solar
24 electric system or a paired solar and storage system, minus any incentive received for the system

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [italic and bracketed] is existing law to be omitted.
New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 from the electric utility serving the customer for which the system is installed.

2 (6) “Paired solar and storage system” means a solar electric system and an energy storage sys-
3 tem purchased **together**, constructed and installed [*together*] by the same contractor and paired such
4 that the energy storage system provides storage capacity for electrical energy produced by the solar
5 electric system.

6 (7) “Solar electric system” means any system, mechanism or series of mechanisms, including
7 photovoltaic systems, that uses solar radiation to generate electrical energy.

8 **SECTION 3. Notwithstanding ORS 469B.256:**

9 (1) **The State Department of Energy shall waive the requirement under ORS 469B.256 (2)**
10 **that construction begin within 12 months of an award under ORS 469B.256 if the department**
11 **finds that:**

12 (a) **Construction was delayed because of supply chain or workforce disruptions or short-**
13 **ages related to the COVID-19 pandemic; and**

14 (b) **Construction began between March 1, 2020, and March 31, 2022.**

15 (2) **A performance agreement is not void and the department may not revoke a grant if**
16 **the department waives, pursuant to subsection (1) of this section, the requirement under**
17 **ORS 469B.256 (2) that construction begin within 12 months of an award under ORS 469B.256.**

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