

HOUSE BILL NO. 4715

April 27, 2021, Introduced by Reps. Hood, Steckloff, Hope, LaGrand, Kuppa, Pohutsky, Rabhi, Aiyash, Hammoud, Hertel, Neeley, Cynthia Johnson, Young, Tyrone Carter, Ellison, Peterson, Stone, Cambensy, Wozniak, Outman, Bolden, Bezotte, Whitsett, Weiss, Markkanen, Steven Johnson, Sowerby, Meerman and Yancey and referred to the Committee on Energy.

A bill to amend 2008 PA 295, entitled
"Clean and renewable energy and energy waste reduction act,"
(MCL 460.1001 to 460.1211) by adding sections 235 and 237.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 **Sec. 235. (1) By 1 year after the effective date of the**
2 **amendatory act that added this section, the commission shall**
3 **promulgate rules to do all of the following:**
4 **(a) Allow for the creation and financing of community solar**
5 **facilities and for subscribers to receive bill credits.**

1 (b) Ensure that all customer classes have opportunities to
2 participate as subscribers to a community solar facility.

3 (c) Include 1 or more mechanisms that ensure accessibility to
4 subscriptions to a community solar facility for low-income
5 households and low-income service organizations. Each mechanism
6 shall be designed to achieve tangible economic benefits for low-
7 income households. The commission shall make reasonable efforts to
8 integrate each mechanism with existing complementary programs,
9 including energy efficiency, energy conservation, energy
10 assistance, and workforce development programs. In determining
11 appropriate mechanisms under this subdivision, the commission, in
12 collaboration with electric providers and other stakeholders, shall
13 consider the development of financing options, financial
14 incentives, education and outreach programs, and appropriate
15 participation goals.

16 (d) Prohibit an electric provider from removing a customer
17 from the customer's applicable customer class because the customer
18 subscribes to a community solar facility.

19 (e) Provide for the transferability and portability of
20 subscriptions, including a subscriber's retention of a subscription
21 to a community solar facility if the subscriber moves within the
22 same electric provider's service territory.

23 (f) Provide for consumer protection in compliance with
24 existing laws.

25 (g) Allow an electric provider to recover costs of
26 administering bill credits.

27 (h) Modify existing interconnection standards, fees, and
28 processes as needed to do both of the following:

29 (i) Facilitate the efficient and cost-effective interconnection

1 of community solar facilities.

2 (ii) Allow an electric provider to recover reasonable
3 interconnection costs for each community solar facility.

4 (i) Require that electric providers efficiently connect
5 community solar facilities to the electrical distribution grid and
6 not discriminate against community solar facilities.

7 (j) Ensure that subscriber organizations have received
8 interconnection agreements, have legal control of their sites, and
9 have received all necessary nonministerial permits.

10 (k) Otherwise implement this part.

11 (2) By 1 year after the effective date of the amendatory act
12 that added this section, the commission shall establish an
13 applicable bill credit rate. The commission shall establish the
14 applicable bill credit rate at a level that results in both of the
15 following:

16 (a) Robust community solar facility development.

17 (b) Access for all customer classes to subscriptions.

18 Sec. 237. A subscriber organization is not considered to be an
19 electric provider as a result of its ownership or operation of a
20 community solar facility.

21 Enacting section 1. This amendatory act does not take effect
22 unless Senate Bill No.____ or House Bill No.4716 (request no.
23 01664'21) of the 101st Legislature is enacted into law.