

Solar Energy Panels and Systems

South Carolina

- S.C. Code Ann. § 12-6-3587 (Tax Credit for Purchase and Installation of a Solar Energy System)
- S.C. Code Ann. § 12-6-3588 (South Carolina Clean Energy Tax Incentive Program)

Florida

- Fla. Stat. Ann. § 163.04 (West)
- Notwithstanding any provision of this chapter or other provision of general or special law, the adoption of an ordinance by a governing body, as those terms are defined in this chapter, which prohibits or has the effect of prohibiting the installation of solar collectors, clotheslines, or other energy devices based on renewable resources is expressly prohibited.
- A deed restriction, covenant, declaration, or similar binding agreement may not prohibit or have the effect of prohibiting solar collectors, clotheslines, or other energy devices based on renewable resources from being installed on buildings erected on the lots or parcels covered by the deed restriction, covenant, declaration, or binding agreement. A property owner may not be denied permission to install solar collectors or other energy devices by any entity granted the power or right in any deed restriction, covenant, declaration, or similar binding agreement to approve, forbid, control, or direct alteration of property with respect to residential dwellings and within the boundaries of a condominium unit. Such entity may determine the specific location where solar collectors may be installed on the roof within an orientation to the south or within 45° east or west of due south if such determination does not impair the effective operation of the solar collectors.

Illinois

- 765 Ill. Comp. Stat. Ann. 165/15
- Notwithstanding any provision of this Act or other provision of law, the adoption of a bylaw or exercise of any power by the governing entity of a homeowners' association, common interest community association, or condominium unit owners' association which prohibits or has the effect of prohibiting the installation of a solar energy system is expressly prohibited.
- “Solar collector” means:
 - (1) an assembly, structure, or design, including passive elements, used for gathering, concentrating, or absorbing direct and indirect solar energy, specially designed for holding a substantial amount of useful thermal energy and to transfer that energy to a gas, solid, or liquid or to use that energy directly; or
 - (2) a mechanism that absorbs solar energy and converts it into electricity; or
 - (3) a mechanism or process used for gathering solar energy through wind or thermal gradients; or
 - (4) a component used to transfer thermal energy to a gas, solid, or liquid, or to convert it into electricity.
- “Solar storage mechanism” means equipment or elements (such as piping and transfer mechanisms, containers, heat exchangers, or controls thereof, and gases, solids, liquids, or combinations thereof) that are utilized for storing solar energy, gathered by a solar collector, for subsequent use.
- “Solar energy system” means:
 - (1) a complete assembly, structure, or design of solar collector, or a solar storage mechanism, which uses solar energy for generating electricity or for heating or cooling gases, solids, liquids, or other materials; and
 - (2) the design, materials, or elements of a system and its maintenance, operation, and labor components, and the necessary components, if any, of supplemental conventional energy systems designed or constructed to interface with a solar energy system.

New Mexico

- N.M. Stat. Ann. § 3-18-32 (West)
- A county or municipality shall not restrict the installation of a solar collector as defined pursuant to the Solar Rights Act, except that placement of solar collectors in historic districts may be regulated or restricted by a county or municipality.
- A covenant, restriction or condition contained in a deed, contract, security agreement or other instrument, effective after July 1, 1978, affecting the transfer, sale or use of, or an interest in, real property that effectively prohibits the installation or use of a solar collector is void and unenforceable.

Virginia

- Va. Code Ann. § 67-701 (West)
- No community association shall prohibit an owner from installing a solar energy collection device on that owner's property unless the recorded declaration for that community association establishes such a prohibition. However a community association may establish reasonable restrictions concerning the size, place, and manner of placement of such solar energy collection devices on property designated and intended for individual ownership and use.
- “Solar energy collection device” means any device manufactured and sold for the sole purpose of facilitating the collection and beneficial use of solar energy, including passive heating panels or building components and solar photovoltaic apparatus.

Washington

- Wash. Rev. Code Ann. § 64.38.055 (West)
- The governing documents may not prohibit the installation of a solar energy panel by an owner or resident on the owner's or resident's property as long as the solar energy panel meets applicable state requirements. The governing documents may have reasonable rules concerning the placement and visibility of a solar energy panel.