

## Session 123 - (2019-2020)

**H\*3659 (Rat #0082, Act #0062 of 2019) General Bill, By McCoy, Rose, Ballentine, Wooten, W. Newton, Mack, Sottile, Clary, Erickson, Herbkersman, Pendarvis, Stavrinakis, Ott, Gilliard, Bennett, Caskey, Murphy, Bernstein, Mace, Young, Garvin, Cobb-Hunter, Norrell, Thigpen, Hyde, Jefferson, R. Williams, Funderburk, Huggins, Anderson, Hardee, Cogswell, Tallon, Sandifer, West, Gagnon, Forrester, Blackwell, Spires, Calhoon, B. Cox, Elliott, Morgan, Loftis, Bradley, Willis, Toole, Henderson-Myers, Daning and B. Newton**

**Similar (S 0332)**

**Summary:** SC Energy Freedom Act

AN ACT TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING CHAPTER 41 TO TITLE 58 ENTITLED "RENEWABLE ENERGY PROGRAMS" SO AS TO DEFINE RELEVANT TERMS, TO PROVIDE REVIEW AND APPROVAL PROCEEDINGS BY THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION FOR ELECTRICAL UTILITIES' AVOIDED COST METHODOLOGIES, STANDARD OFFERS, FORM CONTRACTS, AND COMMITMENT TO SELL FORMS, AND TO ESTABLISH VOLUNTARY RENEWABLE ENERGY PROGRAMS; BY ADDING SECTION 58-27-845 SO AS TO ENUMERATE SPECIFIC RIGHTS OWED TO EVERY ELECTRICAL UTILITY CUSTOMER IN SOUTH CAROLINA; TO AMEND SECTION 58-40-10, RELATING TO DEFINITIONS APPLICABLE TO NET ENERGY METERING, SO AS TO REVISE THE DEFINITION OF "CUSTOMER-GENERATOR", AND TO DEFINE "SOLAR CHOICE METERING MEASUREMENT"; TO AMEND SECTION 58-40-20, RELATING TO NET ENERGY METERING RATES, SO AS TO DECLARE THE INTENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, TO REQUIRE NET ENERGY METERING, AND TO ESTABLISH ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION; TO AMEND SECTION 58-27-2610, RELATING TO LEASES OF RENEWABLE ELECTRIC GENERATION FACILITIES, SO AS TO, AMONG OTHER THINGS, REMOVE THE SOLAR LEASING CAP; TO AMEND SECTION 58-37-40, RELATING TO INTEGRATED RESOURCE PLANS, SO AS TO, AMONG OTHER THINGS, ESTABLISH MANDATORY CONTENTS OF INTEGRATED RESOURCE PLANS AND PROVIDE FOR CERTAIN REPORTING REQUIREMENTS; BY ADDING SECTION 58-37-60 SO AS TO AUTHORIZE AN INDEPENDENT STUDY TO EVALUATE THE INTEGRATION OF RENEWABLE ENERGY AND EMERGING ENERGY TECHNOLOGIES INTO THE ELECTRIC GRID; TO AMEND SECTION 58-33-110, RELATING TO REQUIRED PRECONSTRUCTION CERTIFICATIONS FOR MAJOR UTILITY FACILITIES, SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT A PERSON MAY NOT BEGIN CONSTRUCTION OF A MAJOR UTILITY FACILITY WITHOUT FIRST HAVING MADE A DEMONSTRATION THAT THE FACILITY TO BE BUILT HAS BEEN COMPARED TO OTHER GENERATION OPTIONS IN TERMS OF COST, RELIABILITY, AND OTHER REGULATORY IMPLICATIONS DEEMED LEGALLY OR REASONABLY NECESSARY FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMISSION; TO AMEND SECTION 58-27-460, RELATING TO THE PROMULGATION OF STANDARDS FOR INTERCONNECTION OF RENEWABLE ENERGY, SO AS TO, AMONG OTHER THINGS, REQUIRE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION TO PERIODICALLY REVIEW THE STANDARDS FOR INTERCONNECTION AND PARALLEL OPERATION OF GENERATING FACILITIES TO AN ELECTRICAL UTILITY'S DISTRIBUTION AND TRANSMISSION SYSTEM; BY ADDING SECTION 58-27-2660 SO AS TO REQUIRE THE OFFICE OF REGULATORY STAFF AND THE DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS TO DEVELOP CONSUMER PROTECTION REGULATIONS REGARDING THE SALE OR LEASE OF RENEWABLE ENERGY GENERATION FACILITIES; TO AMEND SECTION 58-4-10, AS AMENDED, RELATING TO THE OFFICE OF REGULATORY STAFF, SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT THE OFFICE OF REGULATORY STAFF MUST BE CONSIDERED A PARTY OF RECORD IN ALL FILINGS, APPLICATIONS, OR PROCEEDINGS BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION; AND TO AMEND SECTION 58-4-100, RELATING TO THE EMPLOYMENT OF EXPERT WITNESSES, SO AS TO EXEMPT THE OFFICE OF REGULATORY STAFF FROM THE STATE PROCUREMENT CODE IN THE SELECTION AND EMPLOYMENT OF CERTAIN EXPERT WITNESSES AND THIRD-PARTY CONSULTANTS. - ratified title

01/17/19	House	Introduced and read first time (House Journal-page 7)
01/17/19	House	Referred to Committee on Labor, Commerce and Industry (House Journal-page 7)
01/22/19	House	Member(s) request name added as sponsor: Bernstein, Mace
01/29/19	House	Member(s) request name removed as sponsor: B.Newton
01/29/19	House	Member(s) request name added as sponsor: Young
01/31/19	House	Member(s) request name added as sponsor: Garvin, Cobb-Hunter, Norrell
02/05/19	House	Member(s) request name added as sponsor: Thigpen
02/07/19	House	Member(s) request name added as sponsor: Hyde, Jefferson, R.Williams
02/12/19	House	Member(s) request name added as sponsor: Funderburk
02/13/19	House	Member(s) request name added as sponsor: Huggins

02/14/19 House Member(s) request name added as sponsor: Anderson, Hardee, Cogswell, Tallon, Sandifer, West, Gagnon, Forrester, B.Newton, Blackwell, Spires, Calhoon

02/14/19 House Committee report: Favorable with amendment Labor, Commerce and Industry (House Journal-page 23)

02/15/19 Scrivener's error corrected

02/19/19 Scrivener's error corrected

02/19/19 House Member(s) request name added as sponsor: B.Cox, Elliott, Morgan, Loftis

02/20/19 House Member(s) request name added as sponsor: Bradley, Willis, Toole

02/21/19 House Member(s) request name added as sponsor: Henderson-Myers, Daning

02/21/19 House Amended (House Journal-page 25)

02/21/19 House Read second time (House Journal-page 25)

02/21/19 House Roll call Yeas-110 Nays-0 (House Journal-page 54)

02/21/19 House Unanimous consent for third reading on next legislative day (House Journal-page 56)

02/22/19 House Read third time and sent to Senate (House Journal-page 2)

02/22/19 Scrivener's error corrected

02/26/19 Senate Introduced and read first time

02/26/19 Senate Referred to Committee on Judiciary

03/15/19 Senate Referred to Subcommittee: Gambrell (ch), Hutto, Massey, Sabb, Climer

04/10/19 Senate Committee report: Favorable with amendment Judiciary (Senate Journal-page 279)

05/02/19 Senate Read second time (Senate Journal-page 52)

05/08/19 Senate Committee Amendment Adopted (Senate Journal-page 17)

05/08/19 Senate Amended (Senate Journal-page 17)

05/08/19 Senate Read third time and returned to House with amendments (Senate Journal-page 17)

05/08/19 Senate Roll call Ayes-46 Nays-0 (Senate Journal-page 17)

05/09/19 House Concurred in Senate amendment and enrolled (House Journal-page 91)

05/09/19 House Roll call Yeas-103 Nays-0 (House Journal-page 93)

05/13/19 Ratified R 82

05/16/19 Signed By Governor

05/31/19 Effective date 05/16/19

06/05/19 Act No. 62