
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 200 Session of
2015

INTRODUCED BY VITALI, FRANKEL, BRIGGS, BROWNLEE, CALTAGIRONE,
COHEN, CONKLIN, M. DALEY, DAVIS, KINSEY, MAHONEY, McCARTER,
O'BRIEN, PASHINSKI, READSHAW, SCHREIBER AND THOMAS,
FEBRUARY 23, 2015

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FEBRUARY 23, 2015

AN ACT

1 Providing for PA Sunshine Solar Program; imposing a gross
2 receipts tax increase; and repealing a provision of the act
3 of July 9, 2008 (1st Sp.Sess., P.L.1873, No.1), known as the
4 Alternative Energy Investment Act.

5 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
6 hereby enacts as follows:

7 Section 1. Short title.

8 This act shall be known and may be cited as the PA Sunshine
9 Solar Program Act.

10 Section 2. Definitions.

11 The following words and phrases when used in this act shall
12 have the meanings given to them in this section unless the
13 context clearly indicates otherwise:

14 "Approved commercial entity." A corporation, partnership,
15 sole proprietorship, limited liability company, business trust
16 or other commercial entity approved by the Department of
17 Environmental Protection.

18 "Department." The Department of Environmental Protection of

1 the Commonwealth.

2 "Solar energy system." A solar thermal system or solar
3 photovoltaic system.

4 Section 3. PA Sunshine Solar Program.

5 (a) Continuation.--The PA Sunshine Solar Program authorized
6 under section 306 of the act of July 9, 2008 (1st Sp.Sess.,
7 P.L.1873, No.1), known as the Alternative Energy Investment Act,
8 is continued under this act. Any funds transferred by the
9 Commonwealth Financing Authority to the department under section
10 306(a) of the Alternative Energy Investment Act shall be
11 utilized to provide rebates for the cost of installing solar
12 energy systems as provided under this act.

13 (b) Amounts.--An entity that installs a solar energy system
14 shall be entitled to a rebate as follows:

15 (1) A solar energy system installed to generate energy
16 for a residential home shall qualify for a rebate of 10% of
17 the cost of the first 10 kilowatts of installed capacity.

18 (2) A solar energy system installed to generate energy
19 for property owned and used as an approved commercial entity
20 or as a not-for-profit entity shall qualify for a rebate of
21 10% of the first 100 kilowatts of installed capacity.

22 (c) Guidelines.--Funds under this section shall be used in
23 accordance with guidelines adopted by the department. The
24 guidelines shall establish an application procedure.

25 (d) Administrative costs.--No more than 2% of the funds
26 appropriated to the department may be used for administrative
27 costs.

28 Section 4. Gross receipts tax increase.

29 (a) Increase.--The tax imposed under Article XI of the act
30 of March 4, 1971 (P.L.6, No.2), known as the Tax Reform Code of

1 1971, shall be increased by 1.25 mills.

2 (b) Applicability.--The provisions of Article XI of the Tax
3 Reform Code of 1971 shall apply to the tax increase imposed
4 under subsection (a).

5 (c) Requirement.--The revenue collected by the tax increase
6 imposed under subsection (a) shall be used to fund the program
7 continued under section 3.

8 Section 5. Repeals.

9 Repeals are as follows:

10 (1) The General Assembly declares that the repeal under
11 paragraph (2) is necessary to effectuate this act.

12 (2) Section 306 of the act of July 9, 2008 (1st
13 Sp.Sess., P.L.1873, No.1), known as the Alternative Energy
14 Investment Act, is repealed.

15 Section 6. Continuation.

16 This act is a continuation of section 306 of the act of July
17 9, 2008 (1st Sp.Sess., P.L.1873, No.1), known as the Alternative
18 Energy Investment Act. Except as otherwise provided in this act,
19 all activities initiated under section 306 of the Alternative
20 Energy Investment Act shall continue and remain in full force
21 and effect and may be completed under this act. Orders,
22 regulations, rules and decisions which were made under section
23 306 of the Alternative Energy Investment Act and which are in
24 effect on the effective date of section 5(2) shall remain in
25 full force and effect until revoked, vacated or modified under
26 this act. Contracts, obligations and collective bargaining
27 agreements entered into under section 306 of the Alternative
28 Energy Investment Act are not affected nor impaired by the
29 repeal of section 306 of the Alternative Energy Investment Act.

30 Section 7. Effective date.

1 This act shall take effect in 60 days.