STATE OF NEW YORK

1350

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

January 11, 2021

Introduced by Sen. MAY -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Energy and Telecommunications

AN ACT to amend the public service law, in relation to enacting the "renewable energy bill of rights"

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

Section 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "renewable energy bill of rights".

§ 2. The public service law is amended by adding a new section 66-q to read as follows:

§ 66-q. Right to renewable energy. 1. The legislature declares that each natural person who is a resident of this state has the right to:

(a) generate, consume and export renewable energy and reduce his or her use of electricity that is obtained from the grid;

(b) use technology to store energy at his or her residence;

(c) if the person generates renewable energy pursuant to paragraph (a) of this subdivision, or stores energy pursuant to paragraph (b) of this subdivision, or any combination thereof, connect his or her system that generates renewable energy or stores energy, or any combination thereof, with the electricity meter on the customer's side that is provided by an electric corporation:

(i) in a timely manner;

(ii) in accordance with requirements established by the electric corporation to ensure the safety of electric corporation workers; and

(iii) after providing written notice to the electric corporation providing service in the service territory and installing a nomenclature plate on the electricity meter panel indicating that a system that generates renewable energy or stores energy, or any combination thereof, is present, if the system meets all applicable state and local safety and electrical code requirements;

EXPLANATION--Matter in *italics* (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [-] is old law to be omitted.

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(d) receive fair credit for any renewable energy or stored energy exported to the grid pursuant to section sixty-six-j or sixty-six-l of this article or both;

(e) consumer protections in contracts for renewable energy;

(f) have his or her generation of renewable energy given priority in planning and acquisition of energy resources by an electric utility; and

(g) remain within the existing rate class to which the resident would belong in the absence of a net metering system or a system that generates renewable energy or stores energy, or any combination thereof, without any fees or charges that are different than the fees and charges assessed to customers of the same rate class, regardless of the technologies on the customer's side of the electricity meter, including, without limitation, energy production, energy savings, energy consumption, energy storage or energy shifting technologies, provided that such technologies do not compromise the safety and reliability of the utility grid.

2. For purposes of this section, the term "renewable energy" shall mean energy generated from any non-combustible renewable energy source set forth in section sixty-six-j or sixty-six-l of this article.

§ 3. This act shall take effect immediately.