

SENATE, No. 1123

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
221st LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2024 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Senator JOHN F. MCKEON

District 27 (Essex and Passaic)

SYNOPSIS

Permits municipalities to require that new construction be solar ready.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



1 AN ACT permitting municipalities to require that new construction
2 be solar ready and supplementing P.L.1975, c.217 (C.52:27D-
3 119 et seq.).
4

5 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
6 of New Jersey:
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8 1. a. A municipality may by ordinance condition the issuance
9 of a construction permit for any new structure or building on the
10 requirement that the structure or building be solar ready.

11 b. An ordinance adopted pursuant to subsection a. of this
12 section shall require a construction permit application for a new
13 structure or building to contain plans for the structure or building to
14 be solar ready before the application may be declared complete.

15 c. The commissioner shall promulgate rules and regulations
16 pursuant to its rule-making authority under the "Administrative
17 Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.) in order to
18 effectuate the purposes of this section.

19 d. As used in this section:

20 "Solar panel" means an elevated panel or plate, or a canopy or
21 array thereof, that captures and converts solar radiation to produce
22 power, and includes flat plate, focusing solar collectors, or
23 photovoltaic solar cells and includes the base or foundation of the
24 panel, plate, canopy, or array.

25 "Solar ready" means the incorporation of design elements in a
26 structure or building that allow for the installation of rooftop solar
27 panels and, if the structure or building is intended to use hot water,
28 a solar water heating system.

29 "Solar water heating system" means a system which uses solar
30 energy as the primary means of heating water.
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32 2. This act shall take effect immediately.
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35 STATEMENT
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37 This bill would allow municipalities to require that all newly
38 constructed buildings in the municipality be solar ready. Under the
39 bill, a building is considered solar ready if rooftop solar panels and,
40 if applicable, a solar water heating system may be installed thereon.
41 This bill would give municipalities the flexibility to promote the
42 expansion of solar power generation and usage by requiring that
43 new buildings are designed to be easily equipped with rooftop solar
44 panels and solar water heating systems.