

SSB 6081 - S AMD 583  
By Senator Rivers

ADOPTED 02/12/2018

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the  
2 following:

3 "Sec. 1. RCW 80.60.020 and 2007 c 323 s 2 are each amended to  
4 read as follows:

5 (1) An electric utility:

6 (a) Shall offer to make net metering available to eligible  
7 customers-generators on a first-come, first-served basis until the  
8 cumulative generating capacity of net metering systems equals 0.25  
9 percent of the utility's peak demand during 1996. On January 1, 2014,  
10 the cumulative generating capacity available to net metering systems  
11 will equal ((0.5)) four percent of the utility's peak demand during  
12 1996. Not less than one-half of the utility's 1996 peak demand  
13 available for net metering systems shall be reserved for the  
14 cumulative generating capacity attributable to net metering systems  
15 that generate renewable energy;

16 (b) Shall allow net metering systems to be interconnected using a  
17 standard kilowatt-hour meter capable of registering the flow of  
18 electricity in two directions, unless the commission, in the case of  
19 an electrical company, or the appropriate governing body, in the case  
20 of other electric utilities, determines, after appropriate notice and  
21 opportunity for comment:

22 (i) That the use of additional metering equipment to monitor the  
23 flow of electricity in each direction is necessary and appropriate  
24 for the interconnection of net metering systems, after taking into  
25 account the benefits and costs of purchasing and installing  
26 additional metering equipment; and

27 (ii) How the cost of purchasing and installing an additional  
28 meter is to be allocated between the customer-generator and the  
29 utility;

30 (c) Shall charge the customer-generator a minimum monthly fee  
31 that is the same as other customers of the electric utility in the  
32 same rate class, but shall not charge the customer-generator any

1 additional standby, capacity, interconnection, or other fee or charge  
2 unless the commission, in the case of an electrical company, or the  
3 appropriate governing body, in the case of other electric utilities,  
4 determines, after appropriate notice and opportunity for comment  
5 that:

6 (i) The electric utility will incur direct costs associated with  
7 interconnecting or administering net metering systems that exceed any  
8 offsetting benefits associated with these systems; and

9 (ii) Public policy is best served by imposing these costs on the  
10 customer-generator rather than allocating these costs among the  
11 utility's entire customer base.

12 (2) If a production meter and software is required by the  
13 electric utility to provide meter aggregation under RCW 80.60.030(4),  
14 the customer-generator is responsible for the purchase of the  
15 production meter and software.

16 **Sec. 2.** RCW 80.60.030 and 2007 c 323 s 3 are each amended to  
17 read as follows:

18 Consistent with the other provisions of this chapter, the net  
19 energy measurement must be calculated in the following manner:

20 (1) The electric utility shall measure the net electricity  
21 produced or consumed during the billing period, in accordance with  
22 normal metering practices.

23 (2) If the electricity supplied by the electric utility exceeds  
24 the electricity generated by the customer-generator and fed back to  
25 the electric utility during the billing period, the customer-  
26 generator shall be billed for the net electricity supplied by the  
27 electric utility, in accordance with normal metering practices.

28 (3) If electricity generated by the customer-generator exceeds  
29 the electricity supplied by the electric utility, the customer-  
30 generator:

31 (a) Shall be billed for the appropriate customer charges for that  
32 billing period, in accordance with RCW 80.60.020; and

33 (b) Shall be credited for the excess kilowatt-hours generated  
34 during the billing period, with this kilowatt-hour credit appearing  
35 on the bill for the following billing period.

36 (4) If a customer-generator requests, an electric utility shall  
37 provide meter aggregation.

38 (a) For customer-generators participating in meter aggregation,  
39 kilowatt-hours credits earned by a net metering system during the

1 billing period first shall be used to offset electricity supplied by  
2 the electric utility.

3 (b) Not more than a total of one hundred kilowatts shall be  
4 aggregated among all customer-generators participating in a  
5 generating facility under this subsection.

6 (c) Excess kilowatt-hours credits earned by the net metering  
7 system, during the same billing period, shall be credited equally by  
8 the electric utility to remaining meters located on all premises of a  
9 customer-generator at the designated rate of each meter.

10 (d) Meters so aggregated shall not change rate classes due to  
11 meter aggregation under this section.

12 (5) On (~~April 30th~~) March 31st of each calendar year, any  
13 remaining unused kilowatt-hour credit accumulated during the previous  
14 year shall be granted to the electric utility to be used to assist  
15 qualified low-income residential customers of the electric utility in  
16 paying their electricity bills, without any compensation to the  
17 customer-generator.

18 **Sec. 3.** RCW 82.16.090 and 1988 c 228 s 1 are each amended to  
19 read as follows:

20 Any customer billing issued by a light or power business or gas  
21 distribution business that serves a total of more than twenty  
22 thousand customers and operates within the state shall include the  
23 following information:

24 (1) The rates and amounts of taxes paid directly by the customer  
25 upon products or services rendered by the light and power business or  
26 gas distribution business; (~~and~~)

27 (2) The rate, origin and approximate amount of each tax levied  
28 upon the revenue of the light and power business or gas distribution  
29 business and added as a component of the amount charged to the  
30 customer. Taxes based upon revenue of the light and power business or  
31 gas distribution business to be listed on the customer billing need  
32 not include taxes levied by the federal government or taxes levied  
33 under chapters 54.28, 80.24, or 82.04 RCW; and

34 (3) The total amount of kilowatt-hours of electricity consumed  
35 for the most recent twelve-month period.

36 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** A new section is added to chapter 19.27  
37 RCW to read as follows:

1 The state building code council, in consultation with the  
2 department of commerce and local governments, shall conduct a study  
3 of the state building code and adopt changes necessary to encourage  
4 greater use of renewable energy systems as defined in RCW 82.16.110.

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** (1) The department of commerce shall  
6 convene a work group to identify issues and laws associated with the  
7 future of net metering. The work group shall include representatives  
8 from consumer-owned utilities, investor-owned utilities, the  
9 utilities and transportation commission, the solar industry, and any  
10 other relevant participants. The department of commerce shall report  
11 the work group's recommendations to the appropriate committees of the  
12 legislature by December 1, 2019. The work group recommendations must  
13 identify the specific circumstances in which changes in compensation  
14 for net metering systems would be warranted and what the policy  
15 should be for customer-generators in the same rate class. As part of  
16 the recommendations, the work group must consider the reduction in  
17 utility income associated with different levels of net metering and  
18 must consider if there are any cost shifts to ratepayers associated  
19 with net metering. The work group shall also provide an inventory of  
20 other state's net metering laws.

21 (2) This section expires June 30, 2020."

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22 On page 1, beginning on line 1 of the title, after "Relating to"  
23 strike the remainder of the title and insert "net metering; amending  
24 RCW 80.60.020, 80.60.030, and 82.16.090; adding a new section to  
25 chapter 19.27 RCW; creating a new section; and providing an  
26 expiration date."

EFFECT: Reduces the 6 percent minimum threshold to 4 percent for  
the cumulative generating capacity that a utility must make available  
for net metering systems.

Adds that the work group must consider the reduction in utility  
income associated with different levels of net metering and whether  
there are any cost shifts to ratepayers associated with net metering.

Changes the title.

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