

STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Energy and Environment

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: Revenue impact issued

Action Date: 03/26/15

Action: Without Recommendation As To Passage, Refer To Revenue By Prior Reference.

Meeting Dates: 03/26

Vote:

Yeas: 7 - Bentz, Helm, Holvey, Johnson, Reardon, Vega Pederson, Weidner

Exc: 2 - Boone, Heard

Prepared By: Beth Patrino, Committee Administrator

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires county, upon request of owner of solar project, to enter into agreement, for period not to exceed 20 years, pursuant to which property constituting solar project is exempt from property taxation and owner pays fee in lieu of taxes. Provides that fee shall equal \$7,000 per megawatt of nameplate capacity of solar project. Provides that fee shall be distributed using same distribution schedule as for property taxes. Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Purpose of work session is to move bill to House Committee on Revenue

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Solar energy technologies produce electricity from the energy of the sun. The most commonly used solar technologies are solar water heating, passive solar design for space heating and cooling, and solar photovoltaics for electricity. House Bill 3492 would require a county, upon the request of a solar project owner, to enter into an agreement under which the property constituting the solar project would be exempt from property taxation; the owner would instead pay a fee.