

SENATE BILL NO. 185

BY SENATOR ALLAIN

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

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AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 30:1154(A) and (C), relative to solar energy; to provide for leases to explore, develop, and produce solar energy; to provide for the powers and duties of the secretary of the Department of Natural Resources; to provide for terms, conditions, and requirements of solar leases; to provide for operations and construction during rulemaking; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 30:1154(A) and (C) are hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§1154. Regulations governing solar devices; **solar leases**

A. The secretary shall develop and adopt, in cooperation with affected ~~industry~~ **utility, agricultural, and solar industries, landowners,** and consumer representatives and after one or more public hearings, regulations governing solar devices **and property leases for the exploration, development, and production of solar energy.** The regulations shall be designed to encourage the development and use of solar energy and to provide maximum information to the public concerning solar devices. The regulations may include **all of** the following:

- (1) Standards for testing, inspection, certification, sizing, **capacity,** and installation of solar devices; **including spacing between installations and setbacks.**
- (2) Provisions for the enforcement of the standards; ~~;~~
- (3) Accreditation of laboratories to test and certify solar devices; ~~;~~
- (4) Requirements for on-site inspection of solar devices, including specifying methods for inspection, to determine compliance or noncompliance with the standards; ~~;~~

1 (5) Requirements for submission of any data resulting from the testing and  
2 inspection of solar devices;

3 (6) Prohibitions on the sale of solar devices that do not meet minimum  
4 requirements for safety, capacity, and durability as established by the secretary; ~~and~~.

5 (7) Dissemination of the results of the testing, inspection, and certification  
6 program to the public.

7 **(8) Minimum requirements for property leases for the exploration,**  
8 **development, and production of solar energy, including but not limited to**  
9 **acreage, access, and maintenance of the property during the lease,**  
10 **decommissioning, and final site closure upon termination of the lease, and**  
11 **placement of this program within the department. The rules provided for in this**  
12 **Paragraph shall be promulgated by the secretary, but not implemented until the**  
13 **secretary identifies funding through fees, federal grants, or other sources.**

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15 C. Under no circumstances may the secretary preclude any person from  
16 developing, installing, or operating a solar device on his own property **for**  
17 **residential use.**

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_