

SUPPORT SB 1333

Topic: Department of Energy; Division of Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency; Commonwealth Solar.

Bill Patron: Sen. Hashmi

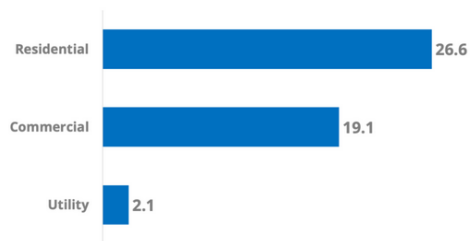
Overview:

- Empowers the Clean Energy Advisory Board to apply to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for funds made available pursuant to the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA).
 - The specific grant fund created by the IRA is the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund, which the EPA will administer.
- Expands the purpose of the Clean Energy Advisory Board from disbursing loans and rebates to disbursing grants as well.
- Defines solar energy system to include battery storage.
- Increases the cap on rebates and grants from \$2 per DC watt to \$3 per DC watt for up to six kilowatts of solar capacity installed.
 - This increases the cap from \$12,000 to \$18,000.

Reasons to support:

- There is no reason for Virginia to leave these federal funds on the table. The Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund provides \$27 billion to the EPA for expenditure by September 30, 2024. If Virginia doesn't utilize these federal funds, other states will be at an advantage in terms of incentivizing distributed solar.
- Low-to-moderate income Virginians who participate in this program and receive these grants will be able to offset all or a majority of the costs of a solar energy system.
 - The Solar Energy Industries Association (SEIA) estimates that the average-sized residential system has dropped from a pre-incentive price of \$40,000 in 2010 to roughly \$20,000 today.¹
 - With the 30% Investment Tax Credit, the post-incentive price drops to \$14,000. With an \$18,000 cap in place, this leaves room for customers to add storage to their system.
- Incentivizing more residential systems will bring more economic growth to Virginia²:

Small-scale solar installations create 10x more jobs
(Jobs per MW installed 2020)



FREEING ENERGY

Sources: Solar Foundation National Solar Jobs Census 2020 and SEIA Solar Market Insight Report 2020 | [sep.link/g207](https://www.seia.org/research-resources/national-solar-jobs-census-2020)

¹ Solar Energy Industries Association, *Solar Industry Research Data*, <https://www.seia.org/solar-industry-research-data>.

² Solar Energy Industries Association, *National Solar Jobs Census 2020*, <https://www.seia.org/research-resources/national-solar-jobs-census-2020>.



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