

Topic: Solar energy generation facilities; regulations requiring mandatory solar disclosures, report.

Bill Patron: Sen. VanValkenburg & Del. Glass

Overview:

- Requires the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (Senate version) and Board of Contractors (House version) to require a disclosure statement in all transactions involving alternative energy system contracting. The disclosure statement must include:
 - Description of solar energy equipment and the make and model of its major components;
 - The total cost to be paid;
 - Any guarantee by the seller of the energy production output that such equipment will provide
 - Any tax credits or rebates the seller claims are available;
 - A description of any warranty for the repair of any damage to the roof of the premises in connection with the installation or removal of such equipment; and
 - A disclosure of the transferability of the obligations under such contract to any third party; and
 - An explanation of any interest, installation fees, document preparation fees, service fees, escalation rates, cancellation fees, roof repair costs, or other costs to be paid by the consumer.
- Directs VDACS (Senate version) to convene a stakeholder group to develop recommendations for any additional consumer protection measures.

Reasons to support:

- Virginia needs to protect customers from unscrupulous residential solar providers.
- Requiring these important disclosures will ensure all Virginians receive the same information about their system and about their rights as system owners.
- Requiring these disclosures will prevent providers from making unrealistic promises.



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