

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Overview

House File 567 requires state buildings or major renovations funded through the sale of state bonds to install “Made in Minnesota” solar electric and heating systems on or near the buildings, at a cost of up to 5 percent of the total.

Section

1 [16B.323] Solar energy in state buildings.

Subd. 1. Definitions. Amends the definition of “manufactured.” Requires solar photovoltaic modules to be certified by Underwriters Laboratory (UL) and assembled in Minnesota at a UL certified plant.

Subd. 2. Solar energy system. Requires that construction or renovation of a building financed from the bond proceeds fund must include the installation of “Made in Minnesota” solar energy systems—those that produce electricity or heat—up to 40 kilowatts capacity to match the building’s electrical consumption. The cost of the solar system is capped at 5 percent of total building costs, which may be exceeded only to the extent that other sources of funds are leveraged.

Requires the commissioner of administration to establish criteria for acquisition of the solar energy system, including the systems’ life-cycle cost, fire safety rating, and other factors.