

1 SENATE MEMORIAL 122

2 **53RD LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2017**

3 INTRODUCED BY

4 Elizabeth "Liz" Stefanics

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10 A MEMORIAL

11 REQUESTING THE PUBLIC REGULATION COMMISSION TO CONVENE A TASK
12 FORCE TO DEVELOP LEGISLATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS TO SUPPORT LOCAL
13 GOVERNMENTS, POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS OR STATE POST-SECONDARY
14 EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS IN DEVELOPING COMMUNITY SOLAR PROJECTS
15 AND FACILITATE ACCEPTANCE BY UTILITIES AND ELECTRIC
16 COOPERATIVES OF THE ENERGY GENERATED.

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18 WHEREAS, suggestions have been made to amend the Renewable
19 Energy Act to require utilities and electric cooperatives to
20 participate in community solar projects planned by local
21 governments, political subdivisions or state post-secondary
22 educational institutions and accept the solar energy generated
23 by those projects; and

24 WHEREAS, increased community solar options may expand
25 access to and the benefits of community solar power for the

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1 purposes set forth in the Renewable Energy Act; and

2 WHEREAS, solar facilities should be encouraged for new and
3 existing buildings and structures throughout the state; and

4 WHEREAS, the public regulation commission may need
5 legislative authorization to expand the scope of its rulemaking
6 authority under the Renewable Energy Act to support a variety
7 of community solar projects and realize the contributions
8 community solar can make to the renewable portfolio standard;

9 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE
10 OF NEW MEXICO that the public regulation commission be
11 requested to convene a task force to develop recommendations
12 for legislation that will support community solar projects
13 planned by local governments, political subdivisions or state
14 post-secondary educational institutions and to facilitate the
15 acceptance and use of electricity generated by these projects
16 by utilities and electric cooperatives; and

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force be composed of
18 representatives of utility companies, electric cooperatives,
19 energy advocacy groups, conservation groups, the New Mexico
20 municipal league, the New Mexico association of counties, the
21 renewable energy industry and any other interested
22 stakeholders; and

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force report its
24 legislative recommendations to the appropriate interim
25 committee by July 2018; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be transmitted to the public regulation commission and the co-chairs of the New Mexico legislative council.

