

Fact sheet on House Bill 323 -- The Net Metering Certainty Act

- In 2019, the Legislature passed Senate Bill 100, which eliminated the one-to-one credit for future solar net-metering customers. House members committed to Rep. DuPlessis, who sponsored a floor amendment, that they would be willing to come back in 2020 and make revisions.

Why it's needed

- House Bill 323, the Net Metering Certainty Act, will help create certainty for small, locally owned solar businesses that employ Kentuckians in good-paying jobs across the Commonwealth.
- It also will create certainty for Kentucky homeowners, small businesses, churches, farms and nonprofits that are interested in having the freedom to decide on their power supplier and who make an up-front investment that will lower their monthly utility bills.
- Since SB 100 took effect in Jan. 1, solar businesses and potential customers are in limbo. They don't know when PSC rate cases will be held or how they will decide about how to value solar sent back to the grid. Uncertainty is bad for any business.
- The issue is urgent. This uncertainty makes it difficult to have a thriving business that adds and retains employees, makes additional investments, and contributes to charitable organizations in our local communities.
- In fact, just recently, a solar installer who makes a good income moved to Texas because of the uncertainty of the future work load in Kentucky. Our businesses and our commonwealth can't afford to lose skilled labor.

What it does

- The Net Metering Certainty Act merely provides a short time of certainty to Kentucky solar businesses and their customers before and during the consideration of rate cases.
- Customers who purchase solar panels and have them installed between July 1, 2020 and Dec. 31, 2024 will receive a 1:1 energy credit until Dec. 31, 2029. That credit will remain with the premises even if the property is sold. Owners only have the 1:1 credit through 2029 if the panels were installed by the end of 2024.
- This compromise, which is supported by the Kentucky Solar Industries Association (KYSEIA), is more than fair to opponents of net metering. It doesn't