



California LEGISLATIVE INFORMATION

[Home](#)
[Bill Information](#)
[California Law](#)
[Publications](#)
[Other Resources](#)
[My Subscriptions](#)
[My Favorites](#)

SB-513 Homeless shelters grants: pets and veterinary services. (2021-2022)

SHARE THIS:



Date Published: 01/03/2022 02:00 PM

AMENDED IN SENATE JANUARY 03, 2022

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE— 2021–2022 REGULAR SESSION

SENATE BILL

NO. 513
Introduced by Senator Hertzberg
February 17, 2021

~~An act to amend Section 2827.10 of the Public Utilities Code, relating to electricity. An act to add Chapter 3.6 (commencing with Section 50535) to Part 2 of Division 31 of the Health and Safety Code, relating to homeless shelters.~~

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 513, as amended, Hertzberg. ~~Eligible fuel cell electrical generating facilities.~~ *Homeless shelters grants: pets and veterinary services.*

Existing law establishes the California Emergency Solutions and Housing Program, under the administration of the Department of Housing and Community Development and requires the department to, among other things, provide rental assistance and housing relocation and stabilization services to ensure housing affordability to people who are experiencing homelessness or who are at risk of homelessness.

This bill would require the department, subject to an appropriation in the annual Budget Act, to develop and administer a program to award grants to qualified homeless shelters, as described, for the provision of shelter, food, and basic veterinary services for pets owned by people experiencing homelessness. The bill would authorize the department to use up to 5% of the funds appropriated in the annual Budget Act for those purposes for its costs in administering the program.

~~Under existing law, the Public Utilities Commission has regulatory authority over public utilities, including electrical corporations, as defined. Existing law establishes a net energy metering program that is available to an eligible fuel cell customer-generator, as defined. Existing law requires an electrical corporation to file with the commission a standard tariff providing for net energy metering for eligible fuel cell customer-generators and make this tariff available to eligible fuel cell customer-generators upon request, on a first-come first-served basis, until the total cumulative rated generating capacity of the eligible fuel cell electrical generating facilities receiving service pursuant to the tariff reaches a specified level. Under existing law, a fuel cell electrical generating facility is not eligible for the tariff unless it commences operation on or before December 31, 2021.~~

~~This bill would make nonsubstantive changes to the provision defining "net energy metering" for these purposes:~~

Vote: majority Appropriation: no Fiscal Committee: ~~no~~yes Local Program: no

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. *The Legislature finds and declares all of the following:*

(a) California is experiencing increased homelessness.

(b) According to Pets of the Homeless, of the 3,500,000 Americans who are homeless, 5 to 10 percent have dogs or cats.

(c) Many shelters, motels, and other assisted housing programs do not permit animals on their property, pushing potential recipients to live in cars, recreational vehicles (RVs), and tent camps.

(d) Being asked to abandon a pet is a major barrier to engaging homeless persons to use services and is emotionally draining to an already vulnerable population.

(e) Pets provide warmth, security, and companionship to many who sleep on the streets. Pets also provide a type of normalcy, as providing food and water for their pets helps some homeless persons connect with reality.

(f) After surrendering a pet, owners reunite with their dogs only 15 percent of the time, while 60 percent or more of animals are left in the animal shelter system and most will die.

(g) By providing services for pets whose owners are without a home, both ends of the leash would be getting needed assistance. More homeless people in need would be inclined to obtain medical and living assistance, and the conditions for their pets would be improved.

SEC. 2. *Chapter 3.6 (commencing with Section 50535) is added to Part 2 of Division 31 of the Health and Safety Code, to read:*

CHAPTER 3.6. Homeless Shelters: Pets and Veterinary Services

50535. *(a) The department shall develop and administer a program to award grants to qualified homeless shelters for the provision of shelter, food, and basic veterinary services for pets owned by people experiencing homelessness.*

(b) For purposes of this section, a "qualified homeless shelter" means a homeless shelter that meets or commits to meeting all of the following conditions:

(1) It has rules of conduct and responsibility regarding pets and their owners.

(2) It provides crates or kenneling either near bunks or in a separate area.

(3) It provides food for both people experiencing homelessness and their pets.

(4) It offers the services of a veterinarian, including spay and neutering services.

(c) The department may use up to 5 percent of the funds appropriated in the annual Budget Act for the purposes of this section for its costs in administering the program authorized by this section.

(d) The department may implement the program through the issuance of forms, guidelines, and one or more notices of funding availability, as the department deems necessary, to exercise the powers and perform the duties conferred on it by this chapter. Any forms, guidelines, and notices of funding availability adopted pursuant to this section are hereby exempted from the rulemaking provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act (Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code).

(e) The provisions of this section shall be operative subject to an appropriation in the annual Budget Act.

~~SECTION 1. Section 2827.10 of the Public Utilities Code is amended to read:~~

~~2827.10.(a) As used in this section, the following terms have the following meanings:~~

~~(1) "Electrical corporation" means an electrical corporation, as defined in Section 218:~~

~~(2) "Eligible fuel cell electrical generating facility" means a facility that includes the following:~~

~~(A)Integrated powerplant systems containing a stack, tubular array, or other functionally similar configuration used to electrochemically convert fuel to electricity:~~

~~(B)An inverter and fuel processing system where necessary:~~

~~(C)Other plant equipment, including heat recovery equipment, necessary to support the plant's operation or its energy conversion:~~

~~(3)(A)"Eligible fuel cell customer-generator" means a customer of an electrical corporation that meets all the following criteria:~~

~~(i)Uses a fuel cell electrical generating facility with a generating capacity of not more than five megawatts that is located on or adjacent to the customer's owned, leased, or rented premises, is interconnected and operates in parallel with the electrical grid while the grid is operational or in a grid independent mode when the grid is nonoperational, and is sized to offset part or all of the eligible fuel cell customer-generator's own electrical requirements:~~

~~(ii)Is the recipient of local, state, or federal funds, or who self-finances projects designed to encourage the development of eligible fuel cell electrical generating facilities:~~

~~(iii)Uses technology the commission has determined will achieve reductions in emissions of greenhouse gases pursuant to subdivision (b):~~

~~(iv)Complies with the emissions standards adopted by the State Air Resources Board pursuant to the distributed generation certification program requirements of Section 94203 of Title 17 of the California Code of Regulations, or any successor regulation:~~

~~(B)For purposes of this paragraph, a person or entity is a customer of the electrical corporation if the customer is physically located within the service territory of the electrical corporation and receives bundled service, distribution service, or transmission service from the electrical corporation:~~

~~(4)"Net energy metering" means measuring the difference between the electricity supplied through the electrical grid and the electricity generated by an eligible fuel cell electrical generating facility and fed back to the electrical grid over a 12-month period as described in subdivision (f). Net energy metering shall be accomplished using a time-of-use meter capable of registering the flow of electricity in two directions. If the existing electrical meter of an eligible fuel cell customer-generator is not capable of measuring the flow of electricity in two directions, the eligible fuel cell customer-generator shall be responsible for all expenses involved in purchasing and installing a meter that is able to measure electricity flow in two directions. If an additional meter or meters are installed, the net energy metering calculation shall yield a result identical to that of a time-of-use meter.~~

~~(b)(1)Not later than March 31, 2017, the State Air Resources Board, in consultation with the Energy Commission, shall establish a schedule of annual greenhouse gas emissions reduction standards for a fuel cell electrical generation resource for purposes of clause (iii) of subparagraph (A) of paragraph (3) of subdivision (a) and shall update the schedule every three years with applicable standards for each intervening year:~~

~~(2)The greenhouse gas emissions reduction standards shall ensure that each fuel cell electrical generation resource, for purposes of clause (iii) of subparagraph (A) of paragraph (3) of subdivision (a), reduces greenhouse gas emissions compared to the electrical grid resources, including renewable resources, that the fuel cell electrical generation resource displaces, accounting for both procurement and operation of the electrical grid:~~

~~(c)(1)Every electrical corporation, not later than March 1, 2004, shall file with the commission a standard tariff providing for net energy metering for eligible fuel cell customer-generators, consistent with this section. Subject to the limitation in subdivision (g), every electrical corporation shall make this tariff available to eligible fuel cell customer-generators upon request, on a first-come-first-served basis, until the total cumulative rated generating capacity of the eligible fuel cell electrical generating facilities receiving service pursuant to the tariff, in addition to the installed capacity as of January 1, 2017, reaches a level equal to its proportionate share of a statewide limitation of 500 megawatts cumulative rated generation capacity served under this section. The proportionate share shall be calculated based on the ratio of the electrical corporation's peak demand compared to the total statewide peak demand:~~

~~(2)To continue the growth of the market for onsite electrical generation using fuel cells, the commission may review and incrementally raise the limitation established in paragraph (1) on the total cumulative rated generating capacity of the eligible fuel cell electrical generating facilities receiving service pursuant to the tariff in paragraph (1):~~

~~(d)In determining the eligibility for the cumulative rated generating capacity within an electrical corporation's service territory, preference shall be given to facilities that, at the time of installation, are located in a community with significant exposure to air contaminants or localized air contaminants, or both, including, but not limited to, communities of minority populations or low-income populations, or both, based on the ambient air quality standards established pursuant to Division 26 (commencing with Section 39000) of the Health and Safety Code.~~

~~(e)(1)Each net energy metering contract or tariff shall be identical, with respect to rate structure, all retail rate components, and any monthly charges, to the contract or tariff to which the customer would be assigned if the customer was not an eligible fuel cell customer-generator. Any new or additional demand charge, standby charge, customer charge, minimum monthly charge, interconnection charge, or other charge that would increase an eligible fuel cell customer-generator's costs beyond those of other customers in the rate class to which the eligible fuel cell customer-generator would otherwise be assigned are contrary to the intent of the Legislature in enacting this section, and shall not form a part of net energy metering tariffs.~~

~~(2)The commission shall authorize an electrical corporation to charge a fuel cell customer-generator a fee based on the cost to the utility associated with providing interconnection inspection services for that fuel cell customer-generator.~~

~~(f)The net metering calculation shall be made by measuring the difference between the electricity supplied to the eligible fuel cell customer-generator and the electricity generated by the eligible fuel cell customer-generator and fed back to the electrical grid over a 12-month period. The following rules shall apply to the annualized metering calculation:~~

~~(1)The eligible fuel cell customer-generator shall, at the end of each 12-month period following the date of final interconnection of the eligible fuel cell electrical generating facility with an electrical corporation, and at each anniversary date thereafter, be billed for electricity used during that period. The electrical corporation shall determine if the eligible fuel cell customer-generator was a net consumer or a net producer of electricity during that period. For purposes of determining if the eligible fuel cell customer-generator was a net consumer or a net producer of electricity during that period, the electrical corporation shall aggregate the electrical load of the meters located on the property where the eligible fuel cell electrical generating facility is located and on all property adjacent or contiguous to the property on which the facility is located, if those properties are solely owned, leased, or rented by the eligible fuel cell customer-generator. Each aggregated account shall be billed and measured according to a time-of-use rate schedule.~~

~~(2)At the end of each 12-month period, where the electricity supplied during the period by the electrical corporation exceeds the electricity generated by the eligible fuel cell customer-generator during that same period, the eligible fuel cell customer-generator is a net electricity consumer and the electrical corporation shall be owed compensation for the eligible fuel cell customer-generator's net kilowatthour consumption over that same period. The compensation owed for the eligible fuel cell customer-generator's consumption shall be calculated as follows:~~

~~(A)The generation charges for any net monthly consumption of electricity shall be calculated according to the terms of the tariff to which the same customer would be assigned to or be eligible for if the customer was not an eligible fuel cell customer-generator. When the eligible fuel cell customer-generator is a net generator during any discrete time-of-use period, the net kilowatthours produced shall be valued at the same price per kilowatthour as the electrical corporation would charge for retail kilowatthour sales for generation, exclusive of any surcharges, during that same time-of-use period. If the eligible fuel cell customer-generator's time-of-use electrical meter is unable to measure the flow of electricity in two directions, paragraph (4) of subdivision (a) shall apply. All other charges, other than generation charges, shall be calculated in accordance with the eligible fuel cell customer-generator's applicable tariff and based on the total kilowatthours delivered by the electrical corporation to the eligible fuel cell customer-generator. To the extent that charges for transmission and distribution services are recovered through demand charges in any particular month, no standby reservation charges shall apply in that monthly billing cycle.~~

~~(B)The net balance of moneys owed shall be paid in accordance with the electrical corporation's normal billing cycle.~~

~~(3)At the end of each 12-month period, where the electricity generated by the eligible fuel cell customer-generator during the 12-month period exceeds the electricity supplied by the electrical corporation during that same period, the eligible fuel cell customer-generator is a net electricity producer and the electrical corporation~~

~~shall retain any excess kilowatthours generated during the prior 12-month period. The eligible fuel cell customer-generator shall not be owed any compensation for those excess kilowatthours.~~

~~(4)If an eligible fuel cell customer-generator terminates service with the electrical corporation, the electrical corporation shall reconcile the eligible fuel cell customer-generator's consumption and production of electricity during any 12-month period:~~

~~(g)A fuel cell electrical generating facility shall not be eligible for the tariff unless it commences operation on or before December 31, 2021, unless a later enacted statute, that is chaptered on or before December 31, 2021, extends this eligibility commencement date. The tariff shall remain in effect for an eligible fuel cell electrical generating facility that commences operation pursuant to the tariff on or before December 31, 2021. A fuel cell customer-generator is eligible for the tariff established pursuant to this section only for the operating life of the eligible fuel cell electrical generating facility.~~