

SB 599-FN - AS INTRODUCED

2026 SESSION

26-2270

12/06

SENATE BILL **599-FN**

AN ACT relative to the renewable energy fund.

SPONSORS: Sen. Pearl, Dist 17; Sen. Lang, Dist 2; Sen. Innis, Dist 7; Sen. Watters, Dist 4;
Rep. Mooney, Hills. 12; Rep. Erf, Hills. 28

COMMITTEE: Energy and Natural Resources

ANALYSIS

This bill requires that remaining moneys from certain electricity provider payments made to the renewable energy fund shall first be used by the department of energy for administrative costs up to \$1,000,000, with the remainder to be used to support thermal and electrical renewable energy initiatives. The bill also prohibits any remaining moneys from being used to support individual residential solar initiatives.

Explanation: Matter added to current law appears in ***bold italics***.
Matter removed from current law appears ~~[in brackets and struckthrough.]~~
Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty-Six

AN ACT relative to the renewable energy fund.

Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:

1 1 Renewable Energy Fund; Priority of Use of Funds; Administrative Costs. Amend RSA 362-
2 F:10, I, as amended by 2025, 286:6 to read as follows:

3 I. There is hereby established a renewable energy fund. This nonlapsing special fund shall
4 be continually appropriated to the department of energy to be expended in accordance with this
5 section; provided that at the start of the period in which there is no adopted state operating budget,
6 the department of energy shall in a timely manner seek the approval of the fiscal committee of the
7 general court to continue using moneys from the renewable energy fund to support renewable energy
8 rebate and grant programs in order to ensure there are no interruptions to the programs. The state
9 treasurer shall invest the moneys deposited therein as provided by law. Income received on
10 investments made by the state treasurer shall also be credited to the fund. All payments to be made
11 under this section shall be deposited in the fund. Any remaining moneys paid into the fund under
12 paragraph II of this section, excluding class II moneys, shall **first** be used by the department of
13 energy [~~to support thermal and electrical renewable energy initiatives~~] **for administrative costs**,
14 including the office of energy innovation. **After funding of the administrative costs, up to**
15 **\$1,000,000 annually shall support thermal and electrical renewable energy initiatives,**
16 **pursuant to RSA 362-F:10, VIII, and shall not be used to support individual residential**
17 **solar initiatives. Any monies remaining shall be transferred to the general fund.** Class II
18 moneys shall primarily be used to support solar energy technologies in New Hampshire. All
19 initiatives supported out of these funds shall be subject to audit by the department of energy as
20 deemed necessary. All fund moneys including those from class II may be used to administer this
21 chapter, but all new employee positions shall be approved by the fiscal committee of the general
22 court. No new employees shall be hired by the department of energy due to the inclusion of useful
23 thermal energy in class I production.

24 2 Applicability. This act shall apply to funds collected on and after July 1, 2025 until June 30,
25 2027.

26 3 Effective Date. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

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**SB 599-FN- FISCAL NOTE
AS INTRODUCED**

AN ACT relative to the renewable energy fund.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The Office of Legislative Budget Assistant states this bill has no fiscal impact on state, county and local expenditures or revenue. This bill will have no fiscal impact because the state budget for FY 2026 and FY 2027 already assumed the same allocation structure. The enacted budget projected that, after administrative costs and the \$1,000,000 retained annually in the Renewable Energy Fund to support thermal and electrical renewable energy initiatives, approximately \$4,000,000 per year would be deposited into the General Fund. As this legislation restores the statutory language to align with what was assumed in the budget and corrects an inadvertent change made through policy legislation, there is no additional fiscal impact.

AGENCIES CONTACTED:

None