



Ohio Senate Bill 223

(As Introduced)

Affordable Energy Improvements

Sponsored by Senator Jimmy Stewart



Support

Summary

- Expands the low-cost solar panel revolving loan program to include assisting owners of real property within a municipal corporation (rather than residents) with the installation and implementation of alternative energy technologies (instead of just solar panels) on their real property and specifies that those technologies include solar photovoltaic or solar thermal energy, wind energy, geothermal energy, or energy efficiency technologies, products, and activities that reduce energy consumption or support the production of clean, renewable energy.
- Renames the low-cost solar panel revolving loan program the alternative energy revolving loan program.
- Expands the authority of a special improvement district to undertake special energy improvement projects to include wind energy projects, geothermal energy projects, biomass energy or gasification projects, and energy efficiency improvements.
- Permits special improvement district plans for public improvements and public services to include consulting and energy auditing services and makes those services allowable plan costs.

OEC Perspective

Clean, affordable energy. Is it possible to have both? For millions of Ohioans, it certainly can be when this legislation is passed into law. Senate Bill 223 will make it possible for property owners in participating municipal corporations to invest in energy improvements that are:

- **CLEAN AND GREEN**, harnessing energy efficiency and renewable and advanced energy sources;
- **AFFORDABLE**, thanks to low-interest loans that enable property owners to repay the loan over many years through municipal financing;
- **REAL MONEY SAVERS**, including energy-saving goods and projects, from new windows and insulation to high-efficiency appliances and equipment; and renewable and advanced energy projects that tap inexhaustible, ever-renewing energy sources; and
- **OPEN TO ALL** customer classes—residential, commercial, and industrial.

The Ohio Environmental Council strongly supports this bill.

Bill Ratings



This legislation will help resolve a serious problem that threatens Ohio's environment, and/or demonstrates significant leadership for Ohio's future.



This legislation will benefit Ohio's environment, or shows foresight in setting future environmental policy.



This legislation will somewhat - or on balance - benefit Ohio's environment.



This legislation will cause substantial harm to Ohio's environment, and demonstrates serious disregard for Ohio's future.



This legislation will harm Ohio's environment, or sets the state on the wrong path for future environmental policy.



This legislation will somewhat - or on balance - harm Ohio's environment.

