

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2025-2026 SIMULATION SESSION

SENATE BILL

NO 65

Introduced by Senator Bob Archuleta

September 29, 2025

This amendment to SB100 will make solar panels more affordable to the public in compliance with the bill

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST

SB 65, as introduced, Archuleta. Solar Affordability Bill

California Senate Bill (SB) 100, signed into law in 2018, establishes a goal for California to achieve 100% clean energy by 2045 by requiring that all electricity retail sales and state agency electricity needs come from renewable energy and zero-carbon resources. The bill directs the California Energy Commission, the California Public Utilities Commission, and the California Air Resources Board to oversee the transition and submit joint progress reports every four years.

As of right now there is no funding in the bill that helps people in lower income tax brackets to input clean energy into their homes. On the other side of that, there is funding to implement clean energy into new housing, as many of them are being built with solar panels.

This bill, beginning on January 1, 2026 will require that the government will aid households in the 9% tax bracket or lower to implement solar panels on their house. With the requirement coming in 2045, there is not enough time for many people to figure out a situation so large.

I am proposing that the government will help pay approximately 50% of the solar bill through proper evidence that they were implemented.

This bill would not only help many California citizens financially overcome the burden of SB100, but in partnership with the Sierra club, also help grow the trend of clean and reliable energy in the state.

Vote: 2/3 Appropriation: no Fiscal Committee: yes Local Program: yes

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

SECTION 1. Section 34001 is added to SB100 to read:

Action starting January 1 2026, California State Government will aid all households that reside in the 0%-9% tax bracket a 50% refund for implementing solar panels onto the property.

SEC. 2. Section 34002 is added to SB100 to read:

With proper evidence of purchase, implementation, and tax bracket, a 50% refund for cost of solar panels will be sent within 6-8 weeks of certification.

(1) January 1 2026 is the starting date of this bill

(A) Implementation of this bill will follow through until January 1 2045, or a later revised date.

(2) Tax brackets will be taken from the last fiscal year's statement.