

**AMENDMENT TO
RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 116-63
OFFERED BY MRS. LEE OF NEVADA**

Amend subtitle C of title II to read as follows:

1 **Subtitle C—Distributed Renewable**
2 **Energy**

3 **SEC. 2301. DEFINITIONS.**

4 In this subtitle:

5 (1) **AUTHORITY HAVING JURISDICTION.**—The
6 term “authority having jurisdiction” means any
7 State, county, local, or Tribal office or official with
8 jurisdiction—

9 (A) to issue permits;

10 (B) to conduct inspections to enforce the
11 requirements of a relevant code or standard; or

12 (C) to approve the installation of, or the
13 equipment and materials used in the installa-
14 tion of, qualifying distributed energy systems.

15 (2) **DISTRIBUTED ENERGY SYSTEM IN-**
16 **STALLER.**—The term “distributed energy system in-
17 staller” means an entity or individual—

18 (A) with knowledge and skills relating to—

1 (i) the construction and operation of
2 the equipment used in qualifying distrib-
3 uted energy systems; and

4 (ii) the installation of qualifying dis-
5 tributed energy systems; and

6 (B) that has employed safety training to
7 recognize and avoid the hazards involved in con-
8 structing, operating, and installing qualifying
9 distributed energy systems.

10 (3) QUALIFYING DISTRIBUTED ENERGY SYS-
11 TEM.—The term “qualifying distributed energy sys-
12 tem” means any equipment or materials installed in,
13 on, or near a residential, commercial, or industrial
14 building to support onsite or local energy use, in-
15 cluding—

16 (A) to generate electricity from distributed
17 renewable energy sources, including from—

18 (i) solar photovoltaic modules or simi-
19 lar solar energy technologies;

20 (ii) wind power systems; and

21 (iii) hydrogen electrolysis and fuel cell
22 systems;

23 (B) to store and discharge electricity from
24 batteries with a capacity of at least 2 kilowatt
25 hours;

1 (C) to charge a plug-in electric drive vehi-
2 cle at a power rate of at least 2 kilowatts;

3 (D) to refuel a fuel cell electric vehicle; or

4 (E) to generate electricity from fuel cell
5 systems with a capacity of at least 2 kilowatt
6 hours.

7 (4) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
8 the Secretary of Energy.

9 **SEC. 2302. ESTABLISHMENT OF PROGRAM TO FACILITATE**
10 **VOLUNTARY STREAMLINED PROCESS FOR**
11 **LOCAL PERMITTING OF QUALIFYING DIS-**
12 **TRIBUTED ENERGY SYSTEMS.**

13 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the
14 date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary, in consulta-
15 tion with trade associations and other entities representing
16 distributed energy system installers and organizations rep-
17 resenting State, local, and Tribal governments engaged in
18 permitting, shall establish and carry out a program to es-
19 tablish a voluntary streamlined permitting process for
20 local permitting and inspection of qualifying distributed
21 energy systems, in concert with relevant national con-
22 sensus-based codes and specifications and standards ref-
23 erenced therein.

1 (b) ACTIVITIES OF THE PROGRAM.—In carrying out
2 the program established under subsection (a), the Sec-
3 retary shall—

4 (1) facilitate the development and maintenance
5 of a streamlined permitting process that includes a
6 national online permitting platform for expediting,
7 standardizing, and streamlining permitting, that au-
8 thorities having jurisdiction may use to receive, re-
9 view, and approve permit applications relating to
10 qualifying distributed energy systems;

11 (2) establish a model expedited permit-to-build
12 protocol for qualifying distributed energy systems;

13 (3) provide technical assistance to authorities
14 having jurisdiction on using and adopting—

15 (A) the streamlined permitting process de-
16 scribed in paragraph (1); and

17 (B) the model expedited permit-to-build
18 protocol described in paragraph (2);

19 (4) develop and maintain a voluntary national
20 inspection protocol integrated with the national on-
21 line permitting system described in paragraphs (1)
22 and (2) and related tools to expedite, standardize,
23 and streamline the inspection of qualifying distrib-
24 uted energy systems, including—

1 (A) by investigating the potential for using
2 remote inspections; and

3 (B) by investigating the potential for sam-
4 ple-based inspection for distributed energy sys-
5 tem installers with a demonstrated track record
6 of high-quality work; and

7 (5) take any other action to expedite, stand-
8 ardize, streamline, or improve the process for per-
9 mitting, inspecting, or interconnecting qualifying
10 distributed energy systems.

11 (c) SUPPORT SERVICES.—The Secretary shall—

12 (1) provide technical assistance to authorities
13 having jurisdiction, any administrator of a national
14 online permitting platform, government software
15 providers, and any other entity determined appro-
16 priate by the Secretary in carrying out the activities
17 described in subsection (b); and

18 (2) provide such financial assistance as the Sec-
19 retary determines appropriate from any funds appro-
20 priated to carry out this subtitle.

21 **SEC. 2303. DISTRIBUTED ENERGY OPPORTUNITY COMMU-**
22 **NITIES.**

23 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall recognize and
24 certify certain communities as “Distributed Energy Op-
25 portunity Communities”.

1 (b) QUALIFICATIONS.—The Secretary may certify a
2 State, local community, or Tribe as a “Distributed Energy
3 Opportunity Community” if that State, local community,
4 or Tribe has adopted and implemented the model expedited permit-to-build protocol established under the program established under section 2302.

7 (c) PROCESS.—The Secretary may confer a certification under subsection (a) through existing programs of the Department of Energy.

10 (d) GRANTS.—The Secretary may award competitive grants, using funds appropriated to the Secretary to carry out this subtitle, to encourage communities to adopt the model expedited permit-to-build protocol and the standardized inspection process established under the program established under section 2302.

16 **SEC. 2304. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

17 There is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to carry out this subtitle \$20,000,000 for each of 19 fiscal years 2021 through 2025.

