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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

**BILL NUMBER:** House Memorial 38

**SHORT TITLE:** Low-Income Home Solar Generation Devices

**SPONSOR:** Romero/Roybal Caballero/Sariñana/Ortez

**LAST ORIGINAL**  
**UPDATE:** \_\_\_\_\_ **DATE:** 2/3/26 **ANALYST:** Davidson

### ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT\*

(dollars in thousands)

Agency/Program	FY26	FY27	FY28	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
EMNRD		\$100		\$100	Nonrecurring	General Fund

Parentheses ( ) indicate expenditure decreases.

\*Amounts reflect most recent analysis of this legislation.

### Sources of Information

LFC Files

Agency or Agencies Providing Analysis

Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

## SUMMARY

### Synopsis of House Memorial 38

House Memorial 38 requests the Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Department (EMNRD) convene a work group to study the economic, safety and potential grid impacts of installing portable solar generation devices in low-income households.

The memorial also requested the working group to design a pilot project to install five to ten portable solar generation devices to help quantify the potential economic benefits to participants and the impact of the devices on local distribution grids.

The bill requests the findings of the study to be presented to the pertinent interim legislative committee by November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026.

This bill does not contain an effective date and, as a result, would go into effect 90 days after the Legislature adjourns, which is May 20, 2026.

## FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

Memorials do not contain appropriations and are not enforceable as state law. The study requested in this memorial is within the normal operations of the agencies involved but could

require additional funding to implement, in addition to the pilot portable solar project the memorial requests. LFC analysis estimates the agency could need an additional \$100 thousand in nonrecurring funding to contract out the implementation of the memorial.

## **SIGNIFICANT ISSUES**

EMNRD notes that portable solar generation devices could increase the amount of electricity generated from solar energy in the state. Because these devices are smaller in scale, they may require less infrastructure, allowing for easier integration. EMNRD further notes that solar generation devices of this size could reduce utility bills by approximately \$35 to \$55 per month, citing a report by Bright Saver, a California-based solar energy nonprofit.

At the same time, EMNRD notes that portable solar generation devices are not currently certified for residential use in the state under the framework outlined in the bill. Although safety requirements for portable solar devices are expected to be updated later this year, EMNRD indicates that, if enacted, the bill's provisions would be difficult to implement without clear guidance on applicable safety standards. EMNRD further points to other states and countries that have begun installing portable solar devices or have enacted laws approving their use.

## **CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP**

EMNRD notes that Senate Bill 157 relates to the regulation of portable solar generation devices by exempting certain devices from interconnection and net-metering requirements and defining which devices—based on wattage and intended use—are eligible for the exemption.

## **TECHNICAL ISSUES**

EMNRD notes the first sentence on page three appears to be missing a word, or is potentially unclear.

AD/SEC/dw