As Introduced

136th General Assembly Regular Session 2025-2026

S. B. No. 298

Senator Romanchuk

То	amend section 4928.67 and to enact sections	1
	4928.675, 4928.676, 4928.677, 4928.678,	2
	4928.679, 4928.6710, and 4928.6711 of the	3
	Revised Code regarding virtual net metering and	4
	meter aggregation.	5

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:

Section 1. That section 4928.67 be amended and sections	6
4928.675, 4928.676, 4928.677, 4928.678, 4928.679, 4928.6710, and	7
4928.6711 of the Revised Code be enacted to read as follows:	8
Sec. 4928.67. (A) (1) Except as provided in division	9
divisions (A)(2) and (3) of this section, an electric utility	10
shall develop a standard contract or tariff providing for net	11
metering.	12
That contract or tariff shall be identical in rate	13
structure, all retail rate components, and any monthly charges	14
to the contract or tariff to which the same customer would be	15
assigned if that customer were not a customer-generator.	16
(2) An electric utility shall also develop a separate	17
standard contract or tariff providing for net metering for a	18
hospital, as defined in section 3701.01 of the Revised Code,	19
that is also a customer-generator, subject to all of the	20

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following:	21
(a) No limitation, including that in divisions (A)(31)(a)	22
and (d) of section 4928.01 of the Revised Code, shall apply	23
regarding the availability of the contract or tariff to such	24
hospital customer-generators.	25
(b) The contract or tariff shall be based both upon the	26
rate structure, rate components, and any charges to which the	27
hospital would otherwise be assigned if the hospital were not a	28
customer-generator and upon the market value of the customer-	29
generated electricity at the time it is generated.	30
(c) The contract or tariff shall allow the hospital	31
customer-generator to operate its electric generating facilities	32
individually or collectively without any wattage limitation on	33
size.	34
(3) An electric utility shall also develop a separate	35
standard contract or tariff providing for net metering for a	36
mercantile customer that is also a customer-generator, subject	37
to all of the following:	38
(a) The contract or tariff shall be based upon the rate	39
structure, rate components, and any charges to which the	40
mercantile customer would otherwise be assigned if the	41
mercantile customer was not a customer-generator, except for the	42
customer's transmission rate structure, transmission rate	43
components, and transmission charges.	44
(b) The contract or tariff shall have the option for the	45
mercantile customer's transmission service costs to be billed	46
and collected by the mercantile customer's competitive retail	47
	4 /
electric service supplier instead of by the mercantile	48

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(c) The capacity of the mercantile customer's net metering	50
system is less than fifty megawatts.	51
(B)(1) Net metering under this section shall be	52
accomplished using a single meter capable of registering the	53
flow of electricity in each direction. If its existing	54
electrical meter is not capable of measuring the flow of	55
electricity in two directions, the customer-generator shall be	56
responsible for all expenses involved in purchasing and	57
installing a meter that is capable of measuring electricity flow	58
in two directions.	59
(2) The electric utility, at its own expense and with the	60
written consent of the customer-generator, may install one or	61
more additional meters to monitor the flow of electricity in	62
each direction.	63
(3) Consistent with the other provisions of this section,	64
the measurement of net electricity supplied or generated shall	65
be calculated in the following manner:	66
(a) The electric utility shall measure the net electricity	67
produced or consumed during the billing period, in accordance	68
with normal metering practices.	69
(b) If the electricity supplied by the electric utility	70
exceeds the electricity generated by the customer-generator and	71
fed back to the utility during the billing period, the customer-	72
generator shall be billed for the net electricity supplied by	73
the utility, in accordance with normal metering practices. If	74
electricity is provided to the utility, the credits for that	75
electricity shall appear in the next billing cycle.	76
(4) A net metering system used by a customer-generator	77
shall meet all applicable safety and performance standards	78

established by the national electrical code, the institute of	79
electrical and electronics engineers, and underwriters	80
laboratories.	81
(C) The public utilities commission shall adopt rules	82
relating to additional control and testing requirements for	83
customer-generators that the commission determines are necessary	84
to protect public and worker safety and system reliability.	85
to protect public and worker safety and system reflability.	05
(D) An electric utility shall not require a customer-	86
generator whose net metering system meets the standards and	87
requirements provided for in divisions (B)(4) and (C) of this	88
section to do any of the following:	89
(1) Comply with additional safety or performance	90
standards;	91
(2) Perform or pay for additional tests;	92
(3) Purchase additional liability insurance.	93
Sec. 4928.675. As used in sections 4928.675 to 4928.6711_	94
of the Revised Code:	95
(A) "Virtual net metering" means measuring the difference	96
in an applicable billing period between the electricity supplied	97
by an electric utility and the electricity from a virtual net	98
metering system attributed to a virtual net metering customer	99
that is fed to the electric utility.	100
(B) "Virtual net metering customer" means a person,	101
including a hospital as defined in section 3701.01 of the	102
Revised Code, that contracts for or otherwise acquires	103
electricity generated by a virtual net metering system. "Virtual	104
net metering customer" does not include a residential customer.	105
	100
(C) "Virtual net metering system" means a facility that	106

satisfies all of the requirements of section 4928.676 of the	107
Revised Code.	108
Sec. 4928.676. A virtual net metering system shall satisfy	109
all of the following:	110
(A) The system is a facility for the production of	111
electrical energy.	112
enough.	
(B)(1) The system, subject to divisions (B)(2) and (3) of	113
this section, uses as its fuel either solar, wind, biomass,	114
landfill gas, or hydropower, or uses a microturbine, natural	115
gas-fired generator, battery-storage system, or a fuel cell.	116
(2) If the system uses either a battery-storage system or	117
natural gas-fired generator, then the battery-storage system or	118
generator shall not be sized so as to exceed the size of any co-	119
located facility using solar, wind, biomass, landfill gas, or	120
hydropower as its fuel.	121
(3) If the system uses both a battery-storage system and	122
natural gas-fired generator, then the combined nameplate	123
capacity of the system and the generator shall not be sized so	124
as to exceed the size of any co-located facility using solar,	125
wind, biomass, landfill gas, or hydropower as its fuel.	126
(C) The system is not a net metering system.	127
(D) The system is not located on agricultural land as	128
defined in section 901.61 of the Revised Code.	129
defined in Section 501.01 of the Revised code.	123
(E) The system is located on one of the following:	130
(1) A mine as defined in section 1561.01 of the Revised	131
<pre>Code;</pre>	132
(2) A brownfield as defined in section 122.6511 of the	133

Revised Code;	134
(3) A site, location, tract of land, installation, or	135
building for incineration, composting, sanitary landfilling, or	136
other approved methods of disposal of solid wastes as defined in	137
section 3734.01 of the Revised Code;	138
(4) Property owned by a county land reutilization	139
<pre>corporation as defined in section 1724.01 of the Revised Code;</pre>	140
(5) A disposal system as defined in section 6111.01 of the	141
Revised Code;	142
(6) The roof of a facility that is used exclusively for	143
commercial or industrial purposes.	144
(F) The system is in the certified territory of the	145
electric utility that provides electric service to all electric	146
meters that the virtual net metering customer intends to	147
attribute electricity to or aggregate with under section	148
4928.6710 of the Revised Code.	149
(G) The system operates in parallel with the electric	150
utility's transmission and distribution facilities.	151
(H) The system is sized so as to not exceed one hundred	152
twenty per cent of the customer's requirements for electricity	153
at the time of interconnection, as determined pursuant to	154
section 4928.678 of the Revised Code, regardless of whether the	155
customer intends to take service through an electric utility or	156
a competitive retail electric service provider.	157
(I) The virtual net metering customer maintains an	158
electric meter where the system is located.	159
(J) The system serves exactly one virtual net metering	160
customer.	161

Sec. 4928.677. A virtual net metering system may be	162
located on the same site as one or more other virtual net	163
<pre>metering systems.</pre>	164
Sec. 4928.678. (A) The electric utility shall communicate	165
with and assist a virtual net metering customer or person	166
interested in becoming a virtual net metering customer in	167
calculating the customer's or prospective customer's	168
requirements for electricity based on both of the following:	169
(1) The average amount of electricity supplied by the	170
electric utility to the customer annually over the previous	171
<pre>three years;</pre>	172
(2) The average amount of electricity supplied by the	173
electric utility in any hour within the previous three years,	174
including during electric system coincidental peak hours.	175
(B) In instances in which the electric utility cannot	176
provide data without divulging confidential or proprietary	177
information, or in circumstances in which the electric utility	178
does not have the data or cannot calculate the requirements for	179
electricity described in division (A) of this section due to new	180
construction, vacant properties, facility expansions, or other	181
unique circumstances, the electric utility shall use any	182
available consumption data or measures to establish an	183
appropriate consumption estimate.	184
(C) Upon request from any virtual net metering customer or	185
person interested in becoming a virtual net metering customer,	186
the electric utility shall provide or make available to the	187
customer or prospective customer either the average electricity	188
supplied and coincident peak power to the customer over the	189
previous three years or a reasonable consumption estimate for	190

the customer.	191
Sec. 4928.679. (A) (1) An electric utility shall develop a	192
standard contract or tariff providing for virtual net metering.	193
The contract or tariff shall be similar in rate structure, all	194
retail rate components, and any monthly charges to the contract	195
or tariff to which the same customer would be assigned if that	196
customer was not a virtual net metering customer, except for the	197
customer's transmission rate structure, transmission rate	198
components, and transmission charges. The contract or tariff	199
shall provide that any credit for electricity supplied or	200
generated by the virtual net metering system applies only to the	201
generation and transmission charges imposed on the virtual net	202
metering customer, and the virtual net metering customer shall	203
be billed for all distribution related charges.	204
(2) The contract or tariff providing for virtual net	205
metering shall have the option for the mercantile customer's	206
transmission service costs to be billed and collected by the	207
mercantile customer's competitive retail electric service	208
supplier instead of by the mercantile customer's electric	209
utility.	210
(B) Consistent with the other provisions of this section,	211
the measurement of net electricity supplied or generated for	212
virtual net metering shall be calculated in the following	213
<pre>manner:</pre>	214
(1) The electric utility shall measure the amount of	215
electricity generated by the virtual net metering system and	216
attributed to the virtual net metering customer during the	217
billing period.	218
(2) The electric utility shall measure the amount of	219

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electricity consumed by the virtual net metering customer during	220
the billing period.	221
(3) The electric utility shall measure the net electricity	222
produced or consumed during the billing period using the	223
difference between the amounts measured in divisions (B)(1) and	224
(2) of this section, in accordance with normal metering	225
practices.	226
(C) If the electricity supplied by the electric utility	227
exceeds the electricity generated by the virtual net metering	228
system attributed to the virtual net metering customer and fed	229
to the utility during the billing period, the virtual net	230
metering customer shall be billed for the net electricity	231
supplied by the utility, in accordance with normal metering	232
practices.	233
(D) If the electric utility receives more electricity from	234
the virtual net metering customer than the utility supplied to	235
the customer during the billing period, the excess electricity	236
generated shall be converted to a monetary credit equivalent to	237
the value of all standard charges associated with transmission,	238
whether based in kilowatt hours or kilowatts, other than	239
disaster recovery fees approved by the public utilities	240
commission, and all standard charges associated with generation	241
of the electric utility's standard service offer and shall carry	242
forward as a monetary credit on the customer's future bills	243
until applied completely against the customer's charges. The	244
monetary credit shall not exceed generation and transmission	245
savings realized by the electric utility. The monetary credit	246
shall be applied only to the generation and transmission	247
portions of the virtual net metering customer's bills. The	248
electric utility shall not be required to pay the monetary	249

credit, other than to credit it to future bills, and the	250
monetary credit may be lost if a virtual net metering customer	251
does not use the credit or stops taking service from the	252
electric utility.	253
(E) A virtual net metering system shall meet all	254
applicable safety and performance standards established by the	255
national electrical code, the institute of electrical and	256
electronics engineers, and underwriters laboratories.	257
(F) An electric utility shall not require a virtual net	258
metering customer or other person who owns a virtual net	259
metering system that meets the standards and requirements	260
provided for in division (E) of this section and in section	261
4928.6711 of the Revised Code to do any of the following:	262
(1) Comply with additional safety or performance	263
<pre>standards;</pre>	264
(2) Perform or pay for additional tests;	265
(3) Purchase additional liability insurance.	266
(G) No residential customer shall be required to incur any	267
costs or be charged, directly or indirectly, for any costs	268
related to virtual net metering.	269
Sec. 4928.6710. A virtual net metering customer may	270
aggregate any or all of the customer's electric meters that are	271
in the same electric utility certified territory as a virtual	272
net metering system where the electricity generated by the	273
system is attributable to the customer.	274
Sec. 4928.6711. The public utilities commission shall	275
adopt rules to administer virtual net metering and meter	276
aggregation under sections 4928.675 to 4928.6710 of the Revised	277

Code, including rules relating to additional control and testing	278
requirements for virtual net metering systems that the	279
commission determines are necessary to protect public and worker	280
safety and system reliability.	281
Section 2. That existing section 4928.67 of the Revised	282
Code is hereby repealed.	283