



## CRITICAL UPDATES TO THE FAIR PERMITTING ACT

**Sponsors: Senators Chris Hansen & Kevin Priola; Reps Alex Valdez & Kevin Van Winkle**

This proposal **provides an important clarification to the Fair Permitting Act - providing transparency and consistency of costs for applicants.**

### WHAT IS THE FAIR PERMITTING ACT?

The Fair Permitting Act was established through bipartisan supported legislation in 2011 - **to reduce barriers for homeowners and businesses seeking to utilize renewable energy technologies** - by addressing problems of inconsistent and expensive renewable energy permitting costs across the state. It was updated in 2017, also passing with bipartisan support.

This clarification *makes clear the limits on combined charges and fees levied by local authorities for such installations are an aggregate of \$500/residential and \$1000/commercial.*

### WHY THIS UPDATE IS IMPORTANT

#### → **Creating Transparency & Consistency for All Applicants**

Many local governments are meeting the requirements of the Act, with some actually providing renewable and storage permits below these statutory limits. However, some jurisdictions have found ways to circumvent these limits and are levying additional fees - such as, plan review fees, fire district review fees and other administrative fees. This bill will ensure clarity and consistency for all applicants in all jurisdictions and eliminate any perceived loopholes.

#### → **Meeting Colorado's Energy Storage Needs**

The Colorado Energy Office 2019 report identified the significant need for increased storage in our state - [The Future of Energy Storage in Colorado](#) (see page 2 of the Executive Summary, and page 8 of the Narrative). The report identifies there is an increasing need for energy storage to serve peak demand needs, provide important grid services, and support Colorado's independence and resiliency.

This proposal supports meeting the finding of CEO's 2019 report by providing transparency and certainty for (1) utilities as they begin resource planning; and, (2) developers as they begin to invest in project development. This will help speed deployment for this technology, which is emerging as a complimentary to our renewable energy efforts.

#### → **Ensuring Clean Energy Options For All Coloradans**

As Colorado pursues its clean energy goals, lowering costs for homeowners and businesses to install renewable energy storage with their own money will speed deployment of these clean energy technologies and lower costs for all.