

HMDC Model Congress (Sample Bill)

A BILL TO REQUIRE SOLAR PANELS ON GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS

PURPOSE: To reduce government energy costs and protect the environment by installing solar panels on federal, state, and local government buildings.

SECTION 1: PROBLEM DESCRIPTION

- Government buildings use large amounts of electricity, costing taxpayers millions of dollars each year
- Most government buildings have unused roof space that could generate solar power
- Current laws do not require government buildings to use renewable energy
- Climate change requires immediate action to reduce fossil fuel use

SECTION 2: PROPOSED CHANGES The Federal Government shall: A. Install solar panels on government buildings according to this schedule: • All new buildings must include solar panels starting January 1, 2025 • 50% of existing buildings must have panels by December 31, 2027 • 100% of existing buildings must have panels by December 31, 2030

B. Exceptions allowed for: • Buildings with insufficient sun exposure • Historic buildings where panels would damage historical value • Buildings scheduled for demolition within 5 years

SECTION 3: IMPLEMENTATION A. The Department of Energy will: • Survey all government buildings to assess solar potential • Create installation schedules for each building • Hire contractors through competitive bidding • Monitor installation progress • Report results to Congress annually

B. Building managers must: • Cooperate with survey teams • Prepare buildings for installation • Train staff on solar system operation • Track energy savings

SECTION 4: FUNDING A. Total estimated cost: \$5 billion over 5 years • \$500 million for building surveys • \$4 billion for panel installation • \$500 million for staff training

B. Funding sources: • \$3 billion from existing building maintenance budgets • \$2 billion from new clean energy bonds

SECTION 5: EXPECTED BENEFITS A. Financial Benefits: • 40% reduction in government electricity costs • Estimated savings of \$1 billion annually after full implementation • Return on investment within 5 years

B. Environmental Benefits: • Reduce government carbon emissions by 35% • Demonstrate leadership in clean energy • Create jobs in solar industry

SECTION 6: EFFECTIVE DATE This act shall take effect on January 1, 2025.

Respectfully submitted,

Representative [Student Name]

[State/District]

[Committee Name]