

Senator Nofs offered the following resolution:

Senate Resolution No. 170.

A resolution to encourage the Michigan Agency for Energy to undertake a collaborative discussion with all interested stakeholders into the potential to integrate energy storage into Michigan's electric market.

Whereas, Throughout the United States, hundreds of companies and thousands of American workers are building energy storage systems; and

Whereas, United States Senator Lisa Murkowski (R-Alaska) chaired a hearing on October 3, 2017 to discuss the current and emerging energy storage technologies, underscoring the growing need for building a stronger more resilient grid following the hurricanes that impacted Texas, Louisiana, Florida, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands; and

Whereas, United States Senator Jeff Flake (R-Arizona) introduced Senate Bill 1455 on June 28, 2017 to amend the United States Energy Storage Act of 2007 in order to direct the Secretary of Energy to establish new goals for the Department of Energy relating to energy storage and to carry out certain demonstration projects related to energy storage; and

Whereas, On December 18, 2015, the United States Congress passed a provision in the Omnibus Appropriations Bill, extending the solar investment tax credit that includes energy storage paired with solar through 2021; and

Whereas, Several states, including California, Oregon, Maryland, Nevada, and Massachusetts have passed legislation encouraging the deployment of energy storage. North Carolina recently passed legislation on July 2, 2017 to study energy storage technology; and

Whereas, Public Act 342 of 2016 encourages "energy waste reduction" including load management to reduce provider cost, a policy that could potentially be augmented by energy storage technology; and

Whereas, It is critically important to Michigan's electric market to understand how energy storage technologies may provide value to Michigan consumers based on factors including investment, value to the electric grid, impact on consumer rates and service quality, and factors related to deploying one or more of these technologies; and

Whereas, It is equally important to understand the feasibility of energy storage in Michigan, including services energy storage can provide that are not being performed currently, the economic potential or impact of energy storage deployment in Michigan, and the identification of existing policies and potential policy changes that may inform a statewide coordinated energy storage policy; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate, That we encourage the Michigan Agency for Energy to undertake a collaborative discussion with all interested stakeholders into the potential for integrating energy storage into Michigan's electric market; and be it further

Resolved by the Senate, That any findings or recommendations discussed be transmitted to the Michigan House and Senate, and be made available to the public.