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## S.F. No. 1508 – Community Solar Garden Program Modifications

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**S.F. 1508** reorganizes the community solar garden program statute and provides for a new type of Community Solar Garden: a Community Access Project (CAP), in which at least half of the capacity is represented by residential subscribers.

**Subdivision 1. Definitions.** Moves existing definitions from another part of the section to a separate “definitions” subdivision. Provides an additional definition for the term “subscribed energy.”

**Subd. 2. Solar garden; project requirements.** Adds a subdivision title to organize the section better.

**Subd. 3. Solar garden plan; requirements; nonutility status.** Adds a subdivision title to organize the section better.

**Subd. 4. Community access project; eligibility.** Authorizes a utility to designate a solar garden as a community access project (CAP) if the owner commits in writing that 50 percent or more of the garden’s capacity will be subscribed by residential customers; that the owner will not discriminate against subscribers based on income or credit scores; and that at least one meeting will be held annually with the owner or manager and subscribers.

**Subd. 5. Community access project; financial arrangements.** Requires a utility to purchase all excess generation from a CAP at the retail rate and to charge the owner no more than one cent per watt of the garden’s capacity for any refundable application deposit required by the utility. Renewable energy credits generated by the garden belong to subscribers unless the operator has made other contractual arrangements.

**Subd. 6. Community access project; reporting.** Provides the information a CAP owner must include in the required annual report to CAP subscribers and the utility.

**Subd. 7. Commission order.** Requires the commission to issue an order addressing the requirements of this act within 180 days of its effective date.