

By the Committees on Community Affairs; and Regulated Industries; and Senator Wright

578-02851-22

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1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to temporary underground power panels;
3 creating s. 125.488, F.S.; prohibiting counties from
4 enacting ordinances, regulations, or policies that
5 prevent certain electric utilities from installing
6 temporary underground power panels and from requiring
7 subsequent inspections of such panels as a condition
8 of a certificate of occupancy under specified
9 conditions; defining the term "temporary underground
10 power panel"; creating s. 166.0484, F.S.; prohibiting
11 municipalities from enacting ordinances, regulations,
12 or policies that prevent certain electric utilities
13 from installing temporary underground power panels and
14 from requiring subsequent inspections of such panels
15 as a condition of a certificate of occupancy under
16 specified conditions; providing an exception; defining
17 the term "temporary underground power panel";
18 providing an effective date.

19
20 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

21
22 Section 1. Section 125.488, Florida Statutes, is created to
23 read:

24 125.488 Ordinances, regulations, and policies concerning
25 temporary underground power panels.—

26 (1) A county may not enact any ordinance, regulation, or
27 policy that prevents or has the effect of preventing an electric
28 utility, as defined in s. 366.02(2), from installing a temporary
29 underground power panel if the temporary underground power panel

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30 meets the requirements of Article 590 of the National Electrical
31 Code, 2020 edition, during the construction and installation of
32 the temporary underground power panel. After the county has
33 conducted an inspection of the temporary underground power
34 panel, the county may not require a subsequent inspection of the
35 temporary underground power panel as a condition of issuance of
36 the certificate of occupancy.

37 (2) As used in this section, the term "temporary
38 underground power panel" means a permanent meter base that
39 includes a meter socket, meter, and downpipe, to which power is
40 provided through an underground service line by an electric
41 utility pursuant to its tariffs or service standards, that is
42 permanently attached to a block residential structure, provides
43 temporary power for construction of the residential structure,
44 and is intended for use in providing permanent service to the
45 residential structure upon issuance of the certificate of
46 occupancy.

47 Section 2. Section 166.0484, Florida Statutes, is created
48 to read:

49 166.0484 Ordinances, regulations, and policies concerning
50 temporary underground power panels.-

51 (1) A municipality may not enact any ordinance, regulation,
52 or policy that prevents or has the effect of preventing an
53 electric utility, as defined in s. 366.02(2), from installing a
54 temporary underground power panel if the temporary underground
55 power panel meets the requirements of Article 590 of the
56 National Electrical Code, 2020 edition, during the construction
57 and installation of the temporary underground power panel. After
58 the municipality has conducted an inspection of the temporary

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59 underground power panel, the municipality may not require a
60 subsequent inspection of the temporary underground power panel
61 as a condition of issuance of the certificate of occupancy.

62 (2) This section does not apply to a municipality that owns
63 or operates an electric utility with 100,000 customers or less
64 if the municipality's ordinance, regulation, or policy applies
65 only to its own operations as an electric utility.

66 (3) As used in this section, the term "temporary
67 underground power panel" means a permanent meter base that
68 includes a meter socket, meter, and downpipe, to which power is
69 provided through an underground service line by an electric
70 utility pursuant to its tariffs or service standards, that is
71 permanently attached to a block residential structure, provides
72 temporary power for construction of the residential structure,
73 and is intended for use in providing permanent service to the
74 residential structure upon issuance of the certificate of
75 occupancy.

76 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2022.