
SENATE BILL 5597

State of Washington

61st Legislature

2009 Regular Session

By Senators Jacobsen, Shin, and Kline

Read first time 01/27/09. Referred to Committee on Environment, Water & Energy.

1 AN ACT Relating to investigating Washington's ocean renewable
2 energy resources; creating new sections; making an appropriation; and
3 providing an expiration date.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that Washington's
6 ocean waters serve as a potential source for ocean renewable energy,
7 including wave, tidal, and offshore wind energy, and rural economic
8 development. There is compelling evidence that ocean renewable energy
9 resources can provide a strategically significant and domestically
10 produced power supply for the state. The legislature declares that the
11 state has a significant interest in whether and how the renewable
12 energy potential of its ocean waters, as well as those waters beyond
13 three miles of its coastline, are developed. Therefore, the
14 legislature intends to direct a review of the state's ocean renewable
15 energy resources and development potential, and an analysis of the
16 costs, benefits, and significant issues associated with its
17 development, to help the state address current and future project
18 proposals in an informed and coordinated manner.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) The department of community, trade, and
2 economic development's energy policy office shall:

3 (a) Determine the potential size of the ocean renewable energy
4 resource in the state and federal waters off Washington's coast based
5 on existing technology or technology likely to be available within five
6 years, including analysis of potential limiting factors such as
7 transmission capacity and protection of traditional uses;

8 (b) Determine the potential economic impact that ocean renewable
9 energy development in the state and federal waters off Washington's
10 coast could have, including analysis under a range of future energy
11 scenarios, a range of potential project numbers and sizes, and short
12 and long-term scenarios under which energy generation technologies and
13 infrastructure are either imported into or manufactured in Washington;

14 (c) In conjunction with the department of ecology and other
15 appropriate organizations, analyze the potential environmental,
16 navigation, and fisheries issues and conflicts raised by ocean
17 renewable energy development in the state and federal waters off
18 Washington's coast, including analysis of permitting and site selection
19 processes, and make recommendations on steps the state can take to
20 address such issues and conflicts; and

21 (d) Identify the opportunities for and issues involved in
22 initiating demonstration projects regarding ocean renewable energy
23 generation and provide recommendations for developing demonstration
24 projects from the most promising sources.

25 (2) In carrying out this section, the department of community,
26 trade, and economic development shall coordinate with appropriate
27 public and private entities and individuals and may contract with
28 persons not employed by the state.

29 (3) The department of community, trade, and economic development
30 shall provide a report including its findings and recommendations to
31 the appropriate committees of the senate and house of representatives
32 by September 1, 2010.

33 (4) For the purposes of this section, the term "ocean renewable
34 energy" means wave, tidal, and offshore wind resources.

35 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** The sum of two hundred twenty-five thousand
36 dollars, or as much thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated for

1 the biennium ending June 30, 2011, from the energy freedom account to
2 the department of community, trade, and economic development for the
3 purposes of this act.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** This act expires December 31, 2010.

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