
SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 8027

State of Washington

55th Legislature

1998 Regular Session

By Senators Brown, Hargrove, Prentice, Haugen, Rasmussen, Kohl, McAuliffe, Fairley, Fraser, Spanel, T. Sheldon, B. Sheldon, Snyder, Loveland, Franklin, Bauer, Wojahn, Kline, Patterson and Jacobsen

Read first time 02/02/98. Referred to Committee on Energy & Utilities.

1 TO THE HONORABLE WILLIAM J. CLINTON, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED
2 STATES, AND TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE
3 OF REPRESENTATIVES, AND TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF
4 THE UNITED STATES, IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED:

5 We, your Memorialists, the Senate and House of Representatives of
6 the State of Washington, in legislative session assembled, respectfully
7 represent and petition as follows:

8 WHEREAS, Congress is deliberating the deregulation of the retail
9 electric marketplace; and

10 WHEREAS, Washington State's consumer-owned and investor-owned
11 electric utilities offer consumers a high degree of reliability and
12 service quality while providing some of the lowest rates in the
13 country; and

14 WHEREAS, Washington State is unique in that fifty percent of
15 Washington residents are served by public electric utilities that were
16 created by the people for the people; and

17 WHEREAS, Low-cost power is a critical component of Washington's
18 robust economy; and

19 WHEREAS, Recent studies indicate that if deregulation of the
20 electrical industry were to occur, consumers in Washington may see rate
21 increases in excess of twenty-five percent; and

1 WHEREAS, Consumer protection, system reliability, and service
2 quality may be at risk in Washington if energy deregulation occurs; and

3 WHEREAS, The choice that Washington consumers want most is to keep
4 their current system of low-cost and reliable power.

5 NOW, THEREFORE, Your Memorialists respectfully pray that Congress
6 abandon the idea of imposing any form of energy deregulation upon
7 Washington State's unique power system and allow our citizens to
8 determine the energy regulation structure that works best for them.

9 BE IT RESOLVED, That copies of this Memorial be immediately
10 transmitted to the Honorable William J. Clinton, President of the
11 United States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker
12 of the House of Representatives, and each member of Congress from the
13 State of Washington.

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