

1 1924-S AMH GRAN H2600.1

2 SHB 1924 - H AMD 313 Adopted 3-20-91

3 By Representative Grant

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5 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
6 following:

7 "NEW SECTION. Sec. 1. The legislature finds and declares that
8 the distribution and sale of motor vehicle fuels in the state of
9 Washington vitally affects the general economy of the state, the public
10 interest, and the public welfare. The legislature further finds that
11 there is public concern over whether there is effective competition in
12 the motor vehicle fuels marketplace and whether there is fairness in
13 the pricing and distribution of motor vehicle fuels in the state. A
14 factor in the public concern is variations in motor vehicle fuel prices
15 that appear to be unrelated to comparative marketing costs."

16 "NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. (1) The joint select committee on motor
17 vehicle fuels marketing is created and shall consist of ten members,
18 three from the majority party and two from the minority party, from
19 each of the senate and the house of representatives. There shall be
20 cochairs, and the president of the senate shall appoint the senate
21 members and senate chair, and the speaker of the house of
22 representatives shall appoint the house members and house of
23 representatives chair.

24 (2) The staffs of the senate and house of representatives
25 committees on energy and utilities and transportation shall provide
26 staff support for the joint select committee. State agencies,
27 including the departments of transportation and ecology, the state

1 energy office, and the attorney general, shall provide information as
2 requested by the joint select committee. The joint select committee
3 has the power of subpoena."

4 "NEW SECTION. Sec. 3. (1) The joint select committee shall
5 investigate motor vehicle fuels pricing and distribution in the state
6 of Washington. In particular, the joint select committee shall
7 compare, over a length of time and at various locations around the
8 state, the prices charged by oil companies as follows: Retail motor
9 vehicle fuel prices charged by oil company-owned and operated gas
10 stations and wholesale prices charged by oil companies for motor
11 vehicle fuel sold to independent gas station operators and to
12 independent wholesale distributors of motor vehicle fuel. For
13 consistency in the comparison, the marketing costs of company-owned and
14 operated gas stations, independent gas stations, and independent
15 wholesale distributors shall be investigated.

16 (2) The joint select committee shall determine whether there is
17 discrimination by oil companies in the distribution of motor vehicle
18 fuel. Also, the joint select committee shall determine whether there
19 is unfair motor vehicle fuel pricing resulting in lessening of
20 competition in the motor vehicle fuel marketplace. In particular, oil
21 company marketing practices shall be evaluated as to whether they make
22 it more difficult for small business operators to enter, remain in, or
23 expand their business in the motor vehicle fuels marketplace."

24 "NEW SECTION. Sec. 4. The joint select committee shall report
25 its findings, including legislative recommendations, if any, to the
26 senate and house of representatives committees on energy and utilities
27 by December 1, 1991. This act expires June 30, 1992."

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4 In line 1 of the title, after "fuels;" strike the remainder of the
5 title and insert "creating new sections; and providing an expiration
6 date."