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SENATE BILL 5100

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State of Washington

59th Legislature

2005 Regular Session

By Senators Poulsen, Fraser, Kline and Kohl-Welles; by request of Governor Locke

Read first time 01/13/2005. Referred to Committee on Water, Energy & Environment.

1 AN ACT Relating to state greenhouse gas emissions; and adding new  
2 sections to chapter 70.94 RCW.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that:

5 (1) There is substantial international scientific agreement that  
6 rapid climate change is underway and that this change is principally  
7 the result of human-caused increase in the production of greenhouse  
8 gases.

9 (2) These changes in climate are likely to cause significant long-  
10 term detrimental impacts to Washington state and the northwest economy  
11 and environment.

12 (3) Numerous other states have established greenhouse gases  
13 reduction goals including Connecticut, Maine, New Jersey, New York, and  
14 Oregon, as well as regional goals by the New England states and the  
15 eastern Canadian provinces.

16 (4) Goals provide a clear performance target for statewide  
17 activities to address greenhouse gases and climate change.

1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 2.** It shall be the goal of the state of  
2 Washington to reduce our emissions of greenhouse gases throughout the  
3 state and across all major sectors.

4        (1) By December 1, 2010, the state of Washington will reduce its  
5 total greenhouse gas emissions to a level that does not exceed the  
6 total annual production of greenhouse gases produced within the state  
7 in 1990.

8        (2) By December 1, 2020, the state of Washington will reduce its  
9 total greenhouse gas emissions to a level that is at least ten percent  
10 below the total annual production of greenhouse gases produced within  
11 the state in 1990.

12        (3) Beyond 2020, the state of Washington will continue to reduce  
13 its total greenhouse gas emissions to levels consistent with long-term  
14 stabilization of greenhouse gas levels in the atmosphere and consistent  
15 with the recommendations of the intergovernmental panel on climate  
16 change.

17        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 3.** (1) The Washington State University center  
18 for climate and rural development in cooperation with the department,  
19 the department of community, trade, and economic development, and other  
20 government entities, including local air pollution control agencies,  
21 shall annually report to the legislature and governor on greenhouse gas  
22 emissions produced instate and total greenhouse gas emissions produced  
23 out of state as a result of in-state energy demands. The report shall  
24 describe progress toward achieving the goals set forth in section 2 of  
25 this act.

26        (2) The report shall cover all major sources of greenhouse gas  
27 emissions and shall put particular emphasis on state government-related  
28 emissions.

29        (3) The center, in cooperation with the department, the department  
30 of community, trade, and economic development, the energy facility site  
31 evaluation council, and other interested parties, shall create a  
32 greenhouse gas emissions registry by December 31, 2006. To the maximum  
33 extent possible, the center shall coordinate with other states that  
34 have or are developing such registries. The center may determine that  
35 Washington state participation in an existing or proposed multistate  
36 climate registry is sufficient to meet the requirements of this act.

1 (4) To the extent that there are state mandatory greenhouse gas  
2 emissions reduction requirements for new power plants or other  
3 emissions sources, those entities that are bound by these requirements  
4 shall annually report their emissions characteristics to the registry,  
5 beginning no later than December 31, 2007.

6 (5) The center may develop guidelines necessary for implementation  
7 of this section. The guidelines shall make provisions for both  
8 mandatory reporting by those entities covered by section 4 of this act  
9 and voluntary reporting for all other entities that may wish to use the  
10 registry.

11 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** (1) The center together with the department  
12 of community, trade, and economic development shall investigate  
13 greenhouse gas reduction strategies for the state and report its  
14 findings to the governor and legislature. The center shall make use of  
15 all reports and analyses of state or region-specific greenhouse gas  
16 reduction strategies. The report shall emphasize those strategies that  
17 offer the potential to reduce overall costs and, in particular, could  
18 result in economic development benefits to the state. The report shall  
19 be delivered to the governor and legislature by July 1, 2006.

20 (2) The center together with the department and the department of  
21 community, trade, and economic development shall investigate the  
22 feasibility of a greenhouse gas cap and trade system for reducing  
23 greenhouse gas emissions. They shall produce a report to the governor  
24 and legislature by December 31, 2006, that includes explicit  
25 consideration of:

26 (a) Any existing system or proposed state or regional greenhouse  
27 gas cap and trade systems;

28 (b) The feasibility and potential benefits of participating in a  
29 multistate cap and trade system;

30 (c) Cap and trade systems that include, but are not limited to,  
31 electricity load-based emissions.

32 (3) The center shall consult with agriculture, forestry,  
33 conservation, and other interested parties on steps that the state can  
34 take to promote viable and economic attractive greenhouse gas trading  
35 markets for Washington companies.

1        NEW SECTION.   **Sec. 5.**   Sections 1 through 4 of this act are each  
2   added to chapter 70.94 RCW.

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