
SECOND SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2283

State of Washington 65th Legislature 2018 Regular Session

By House Finance (originally sponsored by Representatives DeBolt, Smith, Orcutt, and Condotta)

READ FIRST TIME 02/26/18.

1 AN ACT Relating to encouraging investment in and reducing the
2 costs of transitioning to the clean energy future; creating a new
3 section; and providing an expiration date.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1)(a) A legislative task force on carbon-
6 free, renewable, and economical energy is established, with members
7 as provided in this subsection (1).

8 (i) The president of the senate must appoint one member from each
9 of the two largest caucuses of the senate.

10 (ii) The speaker of the house of representatives must appoint one
11 member from each of the two largest caucuses of the house of
12 representatives.

13 (iii) The president of the senate and the speaker of the house of
14 representatives jointly must appoint the following members
15 representing relevant stakeholders:

16 (A) Three representatives of investor-owned utilities;

17 (B) Three representatives of consumer-owned utilities, one of
18 which must represent a consumer-owned utility that owns and operates
19 electric generation resources, one of which must represent a
20 consumer-owned utility that does not own and operate electric

1 generation resources, and one of which must represent a rural
2 electric cooperative;

3 (C) One representative of industrial ratepayers;

4 (D) One representative of the Bonneville power administration;

5 (E) Three representatives of organizations which advocate for
6 clean energy technologies and greenhouse gas emissions reductions;
7 and

8 (F) One representative of the Northwest power and planning
9 council.

10 (iv) The governor must appoint members representing the following
11 state agencies:

12 (A) One representative of the Washington utilities and
13 transportation commission; and

14 (B) One representative of the department of commerce.

15 (b) The task force must choose its cochairs from among its
16 legislative membership. The chair of the joint committee on energy
17 supply and energy conservation shall convene the initial meeting of
18 the task force.

19 (2) The task force must review the technological feasibility,
20 timeline, cost, and other impacts of transitioning Washington's
21 electricity sector to one hundred percent carbon-free generation
22 resources, including but not limited to the following issues:

23 (a) Technological feasibility, including an examination of
24 resources known to be commercially available, the potential for
25 storage, and replacement of baseload fossil fuel generation;

26 (b) Reliability, ratepayer costs, and regional market impacts,
27 including impacts on multistate utilities, energy imbalance markets,
28 the potential for negative pricing, and impacts on renewable energy
29 credit markets;

30 (c) The unique aspects of Washington's utilities;

31 (d) The effect of transportation electrification on load;

32 (e) The potential policy interactions between an emission
33 reduction requirement for the electricity sector and other carbon
34 reduction policies, such as a carbon tax;

35 (f) An assessment of appropriate incentives, if any, to
36 facilitate the transition to decarbonization;

37 (g) Federal and state regulatory and legal considerations; and
38 (h) Equitable treatment among utilities.

1 (3) Staff support for the task force must be provided by the
2 senate committee services and the house of representatives office of
3 program research.

4 (4) Legislative members of the task force are reimbursed for
5 travel expenses in accordance with RCW 44.04.120. Nonlegislative
6 members are not entitled to be reimbursed for travel expenses if they
7 are elected officials or are participating on behalf of an employer,
8 governmental entity, or other organization. Any reimbursement for
9 other nonlegislative members is subject to chapter 43.03 RCW.

10 (5) The expenses of the task force must be paid jointly by the
11 senate and the house of representatives. Task force expenditures are
12 subject to approval by the senate facilities and operations committee
13 and the house of representatives executive rules committee, or their
14 successor committees.

15 (6) The task force must convene at least four meetings in 2018.

16 (7) The task force must report its findings and recommendations
17 to the governor and the appropriate committees of the legislature, in
18 compliance with RCW 43.01.036, by January 1, 2019.

19 (8) This section expires January 1, 2019.

--- END ---