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HOUSE BILL 2060

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State of Washington                      52nd Legislature                      1991 Regular Session

By Representatives H. Myers, Grant, O'Brien, Wineberry, Orr and Anderson.

Read first time February 20, 1991. Referred to Committee on Energy & Utilities\Appropriations.

1            AN ACT Relating to energy efficiency; adding new sections to  
2 chapter 70.164 RCW; adding new sections to chapter 80.28 RCW; creating  
3 a new section; and making an appropriation.

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

5            NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 1.**            The legislature finds that the public  
6 interest is served by and the health and welfare of low-income persons  
7 benefited by a substantial increase in the pace of weatherizing low-  
8 income homes. The pace can be increased by requiring energy suppliers  
9 to have low-income weatherization programs and by improving financial  
10 incentives for regulated utilities toward this end.

11            NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 2.**    A new section is added to chapter 70.164 RCW  
12 to read as follows:

13            Regulated electrical companies and gas companies, cities and towns  
14 distributing electricity or natural gas, public utility districts

1 distributing electricity, irrigation districts distributing  
2 electricity, electric cooperatives, oil heat dealers, and propane  
3 dealers shall individually or jointly by December 31, 1991, submit a  
4 plan to the department to complete weatherization of one-half of the  
5 homes of their low-income customers by the year 2001.

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 70.164 RCW  
7 to read as follows:

8 (1) By December 31, 1992, and every year thereafter until December  
9 31, 2001, regulated electrical and gas companies shall present updated  
10 low-income home weatherization plans and submit progress reports to the  
11 utilities and transportation commission.

12 (2) By December 31, 1992, and every year thereafter until December  
13 31, 2001, cities and towns distributing electricity or natural gas,  
14 public utility districts distributing electricity, irrigation districts  
15 distributing electricity, electric cooperatives, oil heat dealers, and  
16 propane dealers shall present updated low-income home weatherization  
17 plans and submit progress reports to the department.

18 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** A new section is added to chapter 70.164 RCW  
19 to read as follows:

20 The department shall develop and implement by December 31, 1991, an  
21 education program for low-income persons covering efficient energy use  
22 and wise financial management.

23 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** A new section is added to chapter 80.28 RCW  
24 to read as follows:

25 The commission shall require that electrical and gas company low-  
26 income home weatherization programs include all energy efficiency  
27 measures that are in the public interest, taking into account both the

1 measures that are cost-effective in reference to the company's avoided  
2 cost for additional energy supplies and the savings for all ratepayers  
3 that can be realized by better enabling low-income persons to pay their  
4 heating bills.

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** A new section is added to chapter 80.28 RCW  
6 to read as follows:

7 Electrical and gas companies shall file energy conservation tariffs  
8 with the commission by October 31, 1991, and at least every five years  
9 thereafter until the year 2011. The filing shall include all extant  
10 energy conservation tariffs and any proposed new ones. Wherein on the  
11 effective date of this act a company does not have an energy  
12 conservation tariff in effect with the commission, the company shall,  
13 as a minimum, file one applicable to low-income residential customers  
14 and another applicable to other residential customers. The company may  
15 file a single tariff rather than the two if the company believes and  
16 can demonstrate to the commission that the single filing is more in the  
17 public interest. The provisions of RCW 80.04.130 apply to the filings.

18 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** A new section is added to chapter 80.28 RCW  
19 to read as follows:

20 By October 31, 1992, the commission shall adopt regulatory  
21 procedures that enable an electrical or gas company's least-cost plan  
22 for consumers to be the company's most profitable course of conduct.  
23 The commission shall make an interim report to the senate and house of  
24 representatives committees on energy and utilities by October 31, 1991.

25 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 8.** If any provision of this act or its  
26 application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the

1 remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other  
2 persons or circumstances is not affected.

3       NEW SECTION.   **Sec. 9.**       The sum of one million six hundred  
4 thousand dollars, or as much thereof as may be necessary, is  
5 appropriated for the biennium ending June 30, 1993, from the general  
6 fund to the department of community development for the purpose of  
7 implementing section 4 of this act.