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**SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1144**

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**State of Washington**

**65th Legislature**

**2017 Regular Session**

**By** House Environment (originally sponsored by Representatives Fitzgibbon, Ryu, Peterson, Stanford, Jinkins, Goodman, Ormsby, Fey, Pollet, Tarleton, Doglio, Farrell, and Macri)

READ FIRST TIME 02/06/17.

1 AN ACT Relating to amending state greenhouse gas emission limits  
2 for consistency with the most recent assessment of climate change  
3 science; and amending RCW 70.235.020.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 70.235.020 and 2008 c 14 s 3 are each amended to  
6 read as follows:

7 (1)(a) The state shall limit emissions of greenhouse gases to  
8 achieve the following emission reductions for Washington state:

9 (i) By 2020, reduce overall emissions of greenhouse gases in the  
10 state to 1990 levels;

11 (ii) By 2035, reduce overall emissions of greenhouse gases in the  
12 state to (~~twenty-five~~) forty percent below 1990 levels;

13 (iii) By 2050, the state will do its part to reach global climate  
14 stabilization levels by reducing overall emissions to (~~fifty~~)  
15 eighty percent below 1990 levels(~~(, or seventy percent below the~~  
16 ~~state's expected emissions that year))~~).

17 (b) By December 1, 2008, the department shall submit a greenhouse  
18 gas reduction plan for review and approval to the legislature,  
19 describing those actions necessary to achieve the emission reductions  
20 in (a) of this subsection by using existing statutory authority and  
21 any additional authority granted by the legislature. Actions taken

1 using existing statutory authority may proceed prior to approval of  
2 the greenhouse gas reduction plan.

3 (c) Except where explicitly stated otherwise, nothing in chapter  
4 14, Laws of 2008 limits any state agency authorities as they existed  
5 prior to June 12, 2008.

6 (d) Consistent with this directive, the department shall take the  
7 following actions:

8 (i) Develop and implement a system for monitoring and reporting  
9 emissions of greenhouse gases as required under RCW 70.94.151; and

10 (ii) Track progress toward meeting the emission reductions  
11 established in this subsection, including the results from policies  
12 currently in effect that have been previously adopted by the state  
13 and policies adopted in the future, and report on that progress.

14 (2) By December 31st of each even-numbered year beginning in  
15 2010, the department and the department of (~~community, trade, and~~  
16 ~~economic development~~) commerce shall report to the governor and the  
17 appropriate committees of the senate and house of representatives the  
18 total emissions of greenhouse gases for the preceding two years, and  
19 totals in each major source sector. The department shall ensure the  
20 reporting rules adopted under RCW 70.94.151 allow it to develop a  
21 comprehensive inventory of emissions of greenhouse gases from all  
22 significant sectors of the Washington economy. The report must  
23 describe Washington's per capita and total greenhouse gas emissions  
24 as compared to the per capita and total greenhouse gas emissions of  
25 the other states in the United States, including Washington's ranking  
26 among the other states as an emitter of greenhouse gases on both a  
27 per capita and total emissions basis. The department shall survey the  
28 agencies of state government to determine each agency's annual  
29 expenditures made during the biennium to reduce greenhouse gas  
30 emissions and to support the achievement of the greenhouse gas  
31 emissions reduction goals identified in this section, as well as each  
32 agency's annual reduction of greenhouse gases during the biennium,  
33 and shall include that information in its report, along with a  
34 tabulation of the cost per ton of greenhouse gas emissions reductions  
35 undertaken by each agency. The department must report, by individual  
36 institution, the total emissions of greenhouse gases from state  
37 universities, regional universities, and the state college, as those  
38 terms are defined in RCW 28B.10.016, and must identify the annual  
39 costs incurred by each of those institutions to meet the greenhouse

1 gas emissions reduction goals identified in subsection (1) of this  
2 section.

3 (3) Except for purposes of reporting, emissions of carbon dioxide  
4 from industrial combustion of biomass in the form of fuel wood, wood  
5 waste, wood by-products, and wood residuals shall not be considered a  
6 greenhouse gas as long as the region's silvicultural sequestration  
7 capacity is maintained or increased.

8 (4) For the purposes of this chapter, the department must, in  
9 coordination with the department of natural resources, calculate and  
10 include in its reporting the total emissions of greenhouse gases from  
11 wildfires in the state. As part of the reductions identified in this  
12 chapter, the state must encourage proactive forest management,  
13 including, but not limited to, prescribed burning and mechanized  
14 thinning, as a means of achieving the state's greenhouse gas  
15 emissions reduction goals.

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