
SECOND SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1144

State of Washington

65th Legislature

2017 Regular Session

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

READ FIRST TIME 02/24/17.

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

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.

16 NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. If specific funding for the purposes of
17 this act, referencing this act by bill or chapter number, is not
18 provided by June 30, 2017, in the omnibus appropriations act, this
19 act is null and void.

--- END ---