
Environment & Energy Committee

HJM 4003

Brief Description: Concerning the United States government joining the global community in formally developing a fossil fuel non-proliferation treaty.

Sponsors: Representatives Street, Doglio, Wylie, Ramel, Kloba, Mena, Duerr, Lekanoff, Thai, Cortes, Peterson, Ryu, Gregerson, Macri, Berg, Pollet, Bergquist, Nance, Goodman, Thomas, Parshley, Berry, Stearns, Donaghy, Obras, Taylor, Hill, Santos, Springer, Scott, Reeves, Reed, Salahuddin, Ortiz-Self, Ormsby, Zahn and Simmons.

<p>Brief Summary of Bill</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Requesting that the United States join in developing a Fossil Fuel Nonproliferation Treaty.

Hearing Date: 2/17/25

Staff: Srinandan Ramachandran (786-7291) and Jacob Lipson (786-7196).

Background:

Climate Change.

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, which is the United Nations body for assessing climate change science, states that humanity must achieve net zero in greenhouse gas emissions by the middle of the century to limit the effects of anthropogenic climate change to 1.5 degrees Celsius of global warming.

Recent Washington Environmental Laws.

The Washington Legislature has passed a number of bills in recent years related to greenhouse gas emissions and climate change, including:

- Senate Bill No. 5145 (2019), prohibiting the use of hydraulic fracking in gas and oil

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exploration;

- Engrossed Second Substitute House Bill No. 2311 (2020) requiring progress toward zero-emissions by 2050;
- the Climate Commitment Act (2021), creating a market mechanism to cap emissions; and
- Engrossed Second Substitute Senate Bill No. 5141 (2021), reducing environmental health disparities.

Moreover, Washington voters recently rejected Initiative 2117 (2024), which would have repealed the Climate Commitment Act.

Summary of Bill:

The Legislature requests that the United States government join the global community in developing a fossil fuel non-proliferation treaty, and formally endorses the call for a fossil fuel nonproliferation treaty. It affirms the need for a plan to phase out fossil fuel production in a manner that prioritizes impacted workers and local government services.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Not requested.