

**FINAL BILL REPORT**

**ESB 6493**

**C 207 L 94**

**SYNOPSIS AS ENACTED**

**Brief Description:** Integrating the state energy strategy into statute.

**SPONSORS:** Senators Sutherland, Amondson and Ludwig

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & UTILITIES**

**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & UTILITIES**

**BACKGROUND:**

In 1991, legislation was enacted which established the Washington Energy Strategy Committee, a broadly representative committee of public and private entities which was directed to develop a state energy strategy. In January 1993 this committee adopted, as its final report, the Washington Energy Strategy, An Invitation to Action. This document set forth principles and policy recommendations to increase energy efficiency, improve environmental quality, and assure adequate, cost-effective energy supplies for the state. The strategy was not developed to be a prescriptive document, but is intended to be a general guide for state and local governments, utilities and the public.

In January 1994 the Governor implemented the Washington State Energy Strategy and directed it to be the policy framework for energy decisions made by state agencies. The Governor directed that the Washington State Energy Office be the lead agency for this implementation, and that an interagency working group be created to review the recommendations of the energy strategy and pursue implementation of the most promising policy alternatives.

**SUMMARY:**

It is the policy of the state of Washington that the state energy strategy shall provide primary guidance for implementation of the state's energy policy.

The State Energy Office shall cooperate with state agencies, governmental units, and private interests in the prioritization and implementation of elements of the state energy strategy. The State Energy Office is the state agency responsible for coordinating the implementation of the energy strategy. The office will report to the Governor and appropriate legislative committees by December 1 of each even-numbered year on the implementation of the strategy.

The State Energy Office is directed to review the strategy periodically with the guidance of a temporary advisory committee. Any recommendations for revisions to the strategy will be conveyed in a written report to the Governor and appropriate legislative committees.

**VOTES ON FINAL PASSAGE:**

|        |    |   |                    |
|--------|----|---|--------------------|
| Senate | 38 | 8 |                    |
| House  | 95 | 0 | (House amended)    |
| Senate | 39 | 7 | (Senate concurred) |

**EFFECTIVE:** June 9, 1994