

SJM 8000 - H COMM AMD

By Committee on Technology, Telecommunications & Energy

ADOPTED 04/09/2003

1 Beginning on page 1, line 1, strike all material through
2 "Washington." on page 2, line 37, and insert the following:

3 "TO THE HONORABLE GEORGE W. BUSH, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES,
4 AND TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF
5 REPRESENTATIVES, AND TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
6 UNITED STATES, IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED, AND TO THE HONORABLE SPENCER
7 ABRAHAM, SECRETARY OF THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY, AND TO
8 THE MEMBERS OF THE FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION, CHAIRMAN
9 PATRICK WOOD, III, COMMISSIONER NORA M. BROWNELL, AND COMMISSIONER
10 WILLIAM L. MASSEY:

11 We, your Memorialists, the Senate and House of Representatives of
12 the State of Washington, in legislative session assembled, respectfully
13 represent and petition as follows:

14 WHEREAS, The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission proposal
15 establishing a standard market design (SMD) for electricity proceeds
16 from the premise that a single market model will work for the entire
17 nation, as a result it would fundamentally change the way the
18 transmission system is operated, expand the Commission's authority in
19 state decisions regarding resource adequacy and demand response, and
20 dismantle the regional benefits derived from public power; and

21 WHEREAS, Washington state has a comprehensive electricity policy,
22 which encourages efficiency while reflecting our unique resource base;
23 and

24 WHEREAS, The Northwest electricity system is different from most of
25 the rest of the nation, including substantial differences in the
26 transmission ownership, a hydro-based system where the amount of energy
27 generated is limited by the amount of water in the rivers and behind
28 the dams, complex legal arrangements for multiple uses of the water to
29 meet diverse goals (power, irrigation, fisheries, recreation, and
30 treaty obligations), and a hydro-based system that requires substantial
31 coordination among plant owners and utilities, rather than the
32 competitive market-based structure the SMD promotes; and

1 WHEREAS, The Northwest electricity system has produced affordable,
2 cost-based rates and reliable service for our region; and

3 WHEREAS, Deregulation broke up traditional regulated utilities in
4 order to create trading markets with the promise of lower costs, more
5 consumer choice, more reliability, and fewer government bailouts. It
6 in fact produced higher prices, more manipulation of consumers,
7 volatility, brownouts, and bailouts running into the tens of billions;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, The SMD would harm consumers in our region through
10 increased costs and decreased reliability;

11 NOW, THEREFORE, Your Memorialists respectfully pray that the
12 Federal Energy Regulatory Commission leave the Northwest electricity
13 system in place and withdraw the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking
14 establishing a Standard Market Design (SMD) for electricity; and

15 Your Memorialists further pray that in the event that the Federal
16 Energy Regulatory Commission does not withdraw its proposal, the
17 President and Congress take action to prevent the Federal Energy
18 Regulatory Commission from proceeding with their proposal.

19 BE IT RESOLVED, That copies of this Memorial be immediately
20 transmitted to the Honorable George W. Bush, President of the United
21 States, the Honorable Spencer Abraham, the Secretary of the United
22 States Department of Energy, the Members of the Federal Energy
23 Regulatory Commission, Chairman Patrick Wood, III, Commissioner Nora M.
24 Brownell, and Commissioner William L. Massey, the President of the
25 United States Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and
26 each member of Congress from the State of Washington."

EFFECT: Technical corrections and edits.

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