

SENATE BILL REPORT

SB 6558

As of February 1, 2012

Title: An act relating to using conservation achieved by a qualifying utility in excess of its biennial acquisition target under the energy independence act.

Brief Description: Using conservation achieved by a qualifying utility in excess of its biennial acquisition target under the energy independence act.

Sponsors: Senators Ranker and Hargrove.

Brief History:

Committee Activity: Energy, Natural Resources & Marine Waters:

SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, NATURAL RESOURCES & MARINE WATERS

Staff: William Bridges (786-7416)

Background: Approved by voters in 2006, the Energy Independence Act, also known as Initiative 937 (I-937), requires electric utilities with 25,000 or more customers to meet targets for energy conservation and for using eligible renewable resources. Utilities that must comply with I-937 are called qualifying utilities.

Energy Conservation Assessments and Targets. Each qualifying electric utility must pursue all available conservation that is cost-effective, reliable, and feasible. By January 1, 2010, each qualifying utility must assess the conservation it can achieve through 2019, and update the assessments every two years for the next ten-year period. Beginning January 2010, each qualifying utility must meet biennial conservation targets that are consistent with its conservation assessments.

Summary of Bill: Allowing Conservation Banking. Conservation achieved in excess of a qualifying utility's biennial target may be used to meet the next biennial target.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Requested on January 31, 2012.

Committee/Commission/Task Force Created: No.

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Effective Date: Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.