
HOUSE BILL 2183

State of Washington

63rd Legislature

2014 Regular Session

By Representatives Morris, Ormsby, Fey, and Hudgins

Prefiled 01/09/14. Read first time 01/13/14. Referred to Committee on Technology & Economic Development.

1 AN ACT Relating to maintaining a robust, clean, and job rich energy
2 policy in the state of Washington that builds upon the goals created by
3 the energy independence act; creating new sections; and providing an
4 expiration date.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** It is the intent of the legislature to
7 establish and support an inclusive legislative-driven process to create
8 policy after 2020 when the current goals of chapter 19.285 RCW, the
9 energy independence act, end. The legislature recognizes that under
10 the best of circumstances, it can take five years to plan and procure
11 energy resources for the electric grid and under the worst
12 circumstances much longer. In a recent report on electric utility
13 integrated resource planning, as required in chapter 19.280 RCW, the
14 department of commerce noted that there is a lack of specifically
15 identified electric generating resources after 2020. While the goals
16 of the renewable portfolio standard created in the energy independence
17 act are many, the prime outcomes of the energy independence act are
18 nurturing the build out of renewable energy resources, being as

1 efficient with current energy resources as possible, and creating
2 economic opportunity.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) By December 31, 2014, the joint
4 committee on energy supply and energy conservation created in RCW
5 44.39.010 shall make recommendations to the energy committees of the
6 legislature on policies that would establish new renewable energy and
7 energy efficiency goals for utilities. The joint committee must
8 consider how its recommendations will achieve the following objectives:

9 (a) Encourage renewable energy resources;

10 (b) Promote the greatest efficiency in using existing resources,
11 especially compared with states that Washington competes with
12 economically;

13 (c) Enable technologies that make existing practices and processes
14 more efficient;

15 (d) Reduce the overall amount of pollution generated in the
16 production and consumption of energy;

17 (e) Reduce the amount of wealth Washington exports to neighboring
18 jurisdictions for energy procurement;

19 (f) Keep rates as low as practical in a policy environment where
20 there are often competing goals;

21 (g) Create regulatory certainty in advance of typical energy
22 planning and procurement cycles; and

23 (h) Maximize the creation of jobs in Washington.

24 (2) The joint committee on energy supply and energy conservation
25 may also identify and recommend policies that eliminate barriers to
26 achieving goals identified in their recommendations, including, but not
27 limited to, permitting timelines, financing, and technology
28 availability.

29 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** In order to facilitate the development of
30 the recommendations in section 2 of this act, the joint committee on
31 energy supply and energy conservation shall hold a minimum of four
32 meetings:

33 (1) The first meeting must provide an opportunity for the public to
34 present to the joint committee on what goals the joint committee should
35 consider when making its recommendation to the legislature to meet the
36 goals in section 1 of this act;

1 (2) A second meeting to summarize and report on areas of consensus
2 and division among stakeholders. The joint committee shall direct
3 staff on the next steps needed in order to work through areas of
4 division towards consensus draft recommendations;

5 (3) A third meeting to take public testimony on a draft set of
6 recommendations. The joint committee shall deliberate and direct staff
7 to prepare final recommendations; and

8 (4) The fourth meeting to vote on final recommendations to the 2015
9 legislature for new energy performance standards after 2020.

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** It is widely acknowledged that as a state
11 and country, nearly two-thirds of the energy consumed through various
12 processes is lost as waste heat. To assist the joint committee on
13 energy supply and energy conservation deliberations in developing new
14 energy performance standards after 2020, the legislature directs the
15 Washington State University energy program to conduct a resource
16 assessment on the amount of new energy resources that could be made
17 available with a high efficiency cogeneration policy or a thermal
18 heating efficiency policy.

19 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** Sections 1 through 4 of this act expire
20 January 1, 2015.

--- END ---