
THIRD SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1144

State of Washington

65th Legislature

2018 Regular Session

By House Appropriations (originally sponsored by Representatives Fitzgibbon, Ryu, Peterson, Stanford, Jinkins, Goodman, Ormsby, Fey, Pollet, Tarleton, Doglio, Farrell, and Macri)

READ FIRST TIME 01/29/18.

1 AN ACT Relating to amending state greenhouse gas emission limits
2 for consistency with the most recent assessment of climate change
3 science; and amending RCW 70.235.020.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 70.235.020 and 2008 c 14 s 3 are each amended to
6 read as follows:

7 (1)(a) The state shall limit emissions of greenhouse gases to
8 achieve the following emission reductions for Washington state:

9 (i) By 2020, reduce overall emissions of greenhouse gases in the
10 state to 1990 levels;

11 (ii) By 2025, reduce greenhouse gas emissions to nineteen percent
12 below 1990 levels, and to make best efforts to reduce greenhouse gas
13 emissions to twenty-one percent below 1990 levels, consistent with
14 the commitment submitted to the United Nations as the intended
15 nationally determined contribution by the United States under the
16 2015 Paris climate agreement;

17 (iii) By 2035, reduce overall emissions of greenhouse gases in
18 the state to ~~((twenty-five))~~ forty percent below 1990 levels;

19 ~~((+iii))~~ (iv) By 2050, the state will do its part to reach
20 global climate stabilization levels by reducing overall emissions to

1 ((fifty)) eighty percent below 1990 levels(~~(, or seventy percent~~
2 ~~below the state's expected emissions that year))~~).

3 (b) By December 1, 2008, the department shall submit a greenhouse
4 gas reduction plan for review and approval to the legislature,
5 describing those actions necessary to achieve the emission reductions
6 in (a) of this subsection by using existing statutory authority and
7 any additional authority granted by the legislature. Actions taken
8 using existing statutory authority may proceed prior to approval of
9 the greenhouse gas reduction plan.

10 (c) Except where explicitly stated otherwise, nothing in chapter
11 14, Laws of 2008 limits any state agency authorities as they existed
12 prior to June 12, 2008.

13 (d) Consistent with this directive, the department shall take the
14 following actions:

15 (i) Develop and implement a system for monitoring and reporting
16 emissions of greenhouse gases as required under RCW 70.94.151; and

17 (ii) Track progress toward meeting the emission reductions
18 established in this subsection, including the results from policies
19 currently in effect that have been previously adopted by the state
20 and policies adopted in the future, and report on that progress.

21 (2) By December 31st of each even-numbered year beginning in
22 2010, the department and the department of (~~community, trade, and~~
23 ~~economic development~~) commerce shall report to the governor and the
24 appropriate committees of the senate and house of representatives the
25 total emissions of greenhouse gases for the preceding two years, and
26 totals in each major source sector. The department shall ensure the
27 reporting rules adopted under RCW 70.94.151 allow it to develop a
28 comprehensive inventory of emissions of greenhouse gases from all
29 significant sectors of the Washington economy. The report must
30 describe Washington's per capita and total greenhouse gas emissions
31 as compared to the per capita and total greenhouse gas emissions of
32 the other states in the United States, including Washington's ranking
33 among the other states as an emitter of greenhouse gases on both a
34 per capita and total emissions basis. The department shall survey the
35 agencies of state government to determine each agency's annual
36 expenditures made during the biennium to reduce greenhouse gas
37 emissions and to support the achievement of the greenhouse gas
38 emissions reduction goals identified in this section, as well as each
39 agency's annual reduction of greenhouse gases during the biennium,
40 and shall include that information in its report, along with a

1 tabulation of the cost per ton of greenhouse gas emissions reductions
2 undertaken by each agency.

3 (3) Except for purposes of reporting, emissions of carbon dioxide
4 from industrial combustion of biomass in the form of fuel wood, wood
5 waste, wood by-products, and wood residuals shall not be considered a
6 greenhouse gas as long as the region's silvicultural sequestration
7 capacity is maintained or increased.

8 (4) For the purposes of this chapter, the department must, in
9 coordination with the department of natural resources, calculate and
10 include in its reporting the total emissions of greenhouse gases from
11 wildfires in the state. As part of the reductions identified in this
12 chapter, the state must encourage proactive forest management,
13 including, but not limited to, prescribed burning and mechanized
14 thinning, as a means of achieving the state's greenhouse gas
15 emissions reduction goals.

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