
SENATE BILL 6409

State of Washington

65th Legislature

2018 Regular Session

By Senator Ericksen

1 AN ACT Relating to public utility district authority to acquire
2 electrical distribution properties; adding a new section to chapter
3 54.32 RCW; and making an appropriation.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 54.32
6 RCW to read as follows:

7 (1) After the formation of a public utility district, such a
8 district has the right, in addition to any other rights provided by
9 law, to acquire by purchase or condemnation any electrical
10 distribution properties in western Washington from any investor-owned
11 utility.

12 (2) Purchase or condemnation of any electrical distribution
13 properties under subsection (1) of this section may be initiated only
14 upon petition and election by the registered voters residing in the
15 district. If the petition is approved by the majority of the
16 registered voters in the public utility district to purchase or
17 condemn any electrical distribution properties under subsection (1)
18 of this section, the area purchased or condemned shall cease to be a
19 part of the investor-owned utility service area at the same time that
20 it becomes a part of the public utility district.

1 (3) The utilities and transportation commission must determine
2 the value of the investor-owned utility property under subsection (1)
3 of this section and provide the commission's analysis to the board of
4 commissioners of the public utility district.

5 (4) The definitions in this subsection apply throughout this
6 section unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

7 (a) "Investor-owned utility" means a corporation owned by
8 investors that meets the definition of "corporation" as defined in
9 RCW 80.04.010 and is engaged in distributing either electricity or
10 natural gas, or both, to more than one retail electric customer in
11 the state.

12 (b) "Western Washington" means that portion of the state lying
13 west of the Cascade mountain range.

14 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** The sum of one hundred million dollars, or
15 as much thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated for the fiscal
16 year ending June 30, 2019, from the carbon pollution reduction
17 account created in section 107, chapter . . . (Senate Bill No. 6203),
18 Laws of 2018, to the department of commerce for the purposes of
19 providing assistance to public utility districts purchasing or
20 condemning any electrical distribution properties under section 1 of
21 this act.

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