
HOUSE BILL 1715

State of Washington

69th Legislature

2025 Regular Session

By Representative Dye

Read first time 01/29/25. Referred to Committee on Environment & Energy.

1 AN ACT Relating to a review of the costs of compliance with the
2 state energy performance standard; adding a new section to chapter
3 19.27A RCW; and providing an expiration date.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 19.27A
6 RCW to read as follows:

7 The joint legislative audit and review committee shall review and
8 report on the costs to state and local public agencies to comply with
9 the state energy performance standard established in this chapter.

10 (1) The committee must identify:

11 (a) By covered building tier and required compliance year: (i)
12 The number of covered buildings required to meet the standard; (ii)
13 the number and percentage of covered buildings in compliance with the
14 standard; (iii) the number and percentage of covered buildings not in
15 compliance with the standard; and (iv) for buildings not in
16 compliance with the standard, a breakdown illustrating which elements
17 of the standard are not met, including energy management planning,
18 benchmarking, and reporting requirements;

19 (b) By fiscal year, fines levied against state and local agencies
20 for noncompliance with the standard;

1 (c) By fiscal year, beginning with state fiscal year 2020, the
2 department of commerce expenditures for overseeing compliance with
3 the standard; and

4 (d) By fiscal year, beginning with state fiscal year 2020,
5 capital and operating budget funding appropriated and awarded to
6 state and local agencies for the purpose of or supporting compliance
7 with the energy performance standard. Examples of such appropriations
8 may include funding for submetering, energy use planning,
9 benchmarking and reporting activities, heating and cooling upgrades,
10 other improvements for the purpose of increasing building energy
11 efficiency, and other appropriations as determined by the committee.

12 (2) For a sample of tier 1 and tier 2 covered buildings owned by
13 state and local public agencies, the committee must:

14 (a) By fiscal year, beginning in state fiscal year 2020, compile
15 state and local expenditures for complying with the standard;

16 (b) Analyze trends of completed energy audits based on: (i)
17 Reported or average ages of the covered buildings; (ii) covered
18 building type, by category; and (iii) an estimate of the projected
19 costs of required capital upgrades required to come into compliance
20 with the standard;

21 (c) Identify sources of potential state, federal, and local
22 funding available to implement the required capital upgrades; and

23 (d) Estimate the extent to which the standard is achieving or
24 will achieve the intended reduction of greenhouse gas emissions for
25 state and local public agencies.

26 (3) Building type categories for the purposes of the analysis
27 required under subsection (2)(b) of this section must be determined
28 by the committee. Examples of building type categories may include
29 office buildings, schools, correctional facilities, courthouses,
30 hospitals, libraries, and others.

31 (4) When selecting the sample of buildings, the committee must
32 include: Buildings from the east and west side of the state,
33 buildings representing a broad selection of building type categories,
34 and a mix of state and locally owned buildings.

35 (5) The department of commerce must provide all relevant data to
36 the committee for the purposes of completing the interim and final
37 reports.

38 (6) By December 1, 2027, the joint legislative audit and review
39 committee must submit an interim report to the appropriate policy and
40 fiscal committees of the legislature that identifies data sources,

1 the proposed approach for selecting the sample of buildings, and
2 potential methodologies. The committee must submit a final report to
3 the appropriate policy and fiscal committees of the legislature by
4 December 1, 2030.

5 (7) This section expires January 1, 2032.

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