

SENATE BILL No. 255

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

Citations Affected: IC 2-5-47; IC 8-1-1-17.

Synopsis: Climate and environmental justice task force. Establishes the climate and environmental justice task force (task force). Provides that the task force consists of 17 members. Requires the task force to: (1) develop a climate action plan that recommends policies the state should implement to systematically mitigate climate change, facilitate adaptation to the effects of climate change in Indiana, and simultaneously enhance statewide economic development; and (2) not later than November 1, 2022, submit the climate action plan to the executive director of the legislative services agency for distribution to the members of the general assembly and the governor. Requires the utility regulatory commission, not later than June 1, 2022, to issue a report forecasting the greenhouse gas emissions that will be produced by the power generation of Indiana's investor owned utility companies in each year from 2022 to 2050, based on the investor owned utility companies' current integrated resource plans.

Effective: Upon passage.

Alting

January 10, 2022, read first time and referred to Committee on Environmental Affairs.



Second Regular Session of the 122nd General Assembly (2022)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2021 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

SENATE BILL No. 255

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning environmental law.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

1 SECTION 1. IC 2-5-47 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS
2 A **NEW** CHAPTER TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE UPON
3 PASSAGE]:

4 **Chapter 47. Climate and Environmental Justice Task Force**

5 **Sec. 1. As used in this chapter, "task force" refers to the climate**
6 **and environmental justice task force established by section 2 of this**
7 **chapter.**

8 **Sec. 2. The climate and environmental justice task force is**
9 **established.**

10 **Sec. 3. (a) The task force consists of the following seventeen (17)**
11 **members:**

12 **(1) One (1) member of the senate appointed by the president**
13 **pro tempore, who shall serve as co-chair of the task force.**

14 **(2) One (1) member of the senate appointed by the minority**
15 **leader of the senate.**

16 **(3) One (1) member of the house of representatives appointed**
17 **by the speaker, who shall serve as co-chair of the task force.**



- 1 **(4) One (1) member of the house of representatives appointed**
2 **by the minority leader of the house.**
3 **(5) One (1) member who:**
4 **(A) is a resident of Indiana;**
5 **(B) has broad expertise and experience in Indiana's**
6 **agricultural industry; and**
7 **(C) represents the interests of Indiana's farmers;**
8 **appointed by the governor.**
9 **(6) One (1) member who:**
10 **(A) is a resident of Indiana; and**
11 **(B) represents the diverse interests of Indiana's business**
12 **community;**
13 **appointed by the governor.**
14 **(7) One (1) member who:**
15 **(A) is a resident of Indiana; and**
16 **(B) has broad experience in electric utility policy;**
17 **appointed by the governor.**
18 **(8) One (1) member who:**
19 **(A) is a resident of Indiana; and**
20 **(B) represents the interests of utility ratepayers;**
21 **appointed by the governor.**
22 **(9) One (1) member who:**
23 **(A) is a resident of Indiana; and**
24 **(B) is a researcher at the Purdue Climate Change Research**
25 **Center;**
26 **appointed by the governor.**
27 **(10) One (1) member who:**
28 **(A) is a resident of Indiana; and**
29 **(B) is a researcher at the Environmental Resilience**
30 **Institute of Indiana University;**
31 **appointed by the governor.**
32 **(11) One (1) member who:**
33 **(A) is a resident of Indiana; and**
34 **(B) has expertise in renewable energy technology and**
35 **deployment;**
36 **appointed by the governor.**
37 **(12) One (1) member who:**
38 **(A) is a resident of Indiana; and**
39 **(B) has broad scientific and academic expertise in public**
40 **health;**
41 **appointed by the governor.**
42 **(13) One (1) member who:**



- 1 (A) is a resident of Indiana;
 2 (B) has broad expertise and experience in environmental
 3 justice issues; and
 4 (C) represents frontline and marginalized communities
 5 that are disproportionately harmed by climate change and
 6 environmental injustices;
 7 appointed by the governor.
 8 (14) One (1) member who:
 9 (A) is a resident of Indiana;
 10 (B) has broad leadership experience in labor unions; and
 11 (C) represents the interests of Indiana's workers;
 12 appointed by the governor.
 13 (15) One (1) member who:
 14 (A) is a resident of Indiana; and
 15 (B) has broad expertise and experience in conservation;
 16 appointed by the governor.
 17 (16) One (1) member who:
 18 (A) is a resident of Indiana;
 19 (B) has broad expertise and experience in forestry; and
 20 (C) represents the interests of Indiana's foresters;
 21 appointed by the governor.
 22 (17) One (1) member who:
 23 (A) is a resident of Indiana;
 24 (B) is at least thirteen (13) years of age and less than
 25 twenty-two (22) years of age; and
 26 (C) has broad experience advocating for climate and
 27 environmental justice;
 28 appointed by the governor.
 29 (b) Initial appointments to the task force under this section shall
 30 be made by the appointing authorities not later than May 1, 2022.
 31 Sec. 4. (a) Eight (8) members of the task force constitute a
 32 quorum.
 33 (b) The affirmative vote of at least a majority of the members at
 34 a meeting at which a quorum is present is necessary for the task
 35 force to take official action other than to meet and take testimony.
 36 (c) The task force shall meet at the call of the co-chairs.
 37 Sec. 5. All meetings of the task force shall be open to the public
 38 in accordance with IC 5-14-1.5. All records of the task force are
 39 subject to IC 5-14-3.
 40 Sec. 6. (a) The task force shall develop a climate action plan for
 41 the state consisting of a comprehensive report that recommends
 42 policies that the state should implement to systematically mitigate



1 climate change, facilitate adaptation to the effects of climate
2 change in Indiana, and simultaneously enhance statewide economic
3 development. The report may include the following:

4 (1) An emissions management plan that includes:

5 (A) strategies for the state to systematically reduce its net
6 greenhouse gas emissions;

7 (B) the setting of short term benchmark goals;

8 (C) the establishment of proper measures to ensure the
9 plan is being implemented; and

10 (D) the incorporation of energy efficiency and renewable
11 energy standards where possible.

12 (2) Recommendations on renewable energy targets for the
13 state.

14 (3) Recommendations on policies that the state should
15 implement to do the following:

16 (A) Financially assist cities, communities, and businesses in
17 Indiana that may face economic challenges as a result of
18 utilities transitioning their power generation from the
19 combustion of fossil fuels to clean and renewable energy
20 resources.

21 (B) Attract sustainable development for communities and
22 grow Indiana's clean energy manufacturing sector,
23 including the manufacture of components for electric
24 vehicles, wind turbines, and solar panels.

25 (C) Use sustainable development, climate change
26 mitigation, and climate change adaptation to:

27 (i) systematically decrease "brain drain";

28 (ii) enhance quality of place in Indiana; and

29 (iii) systematically create new jobs and enhance
30 workforce development in Indiana.

31 (D) Provide Indiana's farmers with opportunities and
32 incentives to voluntarily participate in the effort to
33 mitigate and adapt to climate change, including:

34 (i) the creation of a carbon credit market;

35 (ii) increases in research, cost share, and technical
36 assistance for climate resilient agricultural technology
37 and practices; and

38 (iii) increases in cost share and technical assistance for
39 bundled renewable energy and energy efficiency
40 projects.

41 (E) Secure employment, pensions, and health care for
42 workers affected by changes in the energy industry.



- 1 **(F) Decrease greenhouse gas emissions from motor vehicles**
- 2 **owned and operated in Indiana, including significantly**
- 3 **increasing the number of zero emission vehicles registered**
- 4 **in Indiana.**
- 5 **(G) Increase waste reduction, reuse, composting, and**
- 6 **recycling activities across Indiana.**
- 7 **(H) Increase Indiana's adaptation to the impacts of climate**
- 8 **change, especially relating to Indiana's agricultural sector**
- 9 **and vulnerable communities.**
- 10 **(I) Promote the development, financing, and**
- 11 **implementation of climate resilient infrastructure.**
- 12 **(J) Improve the public health of Indiana's communities by**
- 13 **safely addressing the detrimental effects of climate change**
- 14 **and other environmental injustices, such as the air quality**
- 15 **effects of coal combustion emissions and the water quality**
- 16 **effects of coal combustion residuals.**
- 17 **(K) Systematically ensure justice and equity to all Hoosiers**
- 18 **by prioritizing giving economic benefits and opportunities**
- 19 **to frontline, marginalized, and low income communities**
- 20 **during all efforts to mitigate climate change, increase**
- 21 **adaptation to climate change's effects in Indiana, and**
- 22 **increase statewide economic development.**
- 23 **(L) Provide cross-curricular climate education for**
- 24 **sustainability, using project based learning, to students**
- 25 **from prekindergarten through higher education.**
- 26 **(M) Prepare for the effects on Indiana's fossil fuel industry**
- 27 **and its employees of utilities transitioning their power**
- 28 **generation from the combustion of fossil fuels to other**
- 29 **sources of energy.**

30 **(b) Not later than November 1, 2022, the task force shall submit**
 31 **the report developed under subsection (a) to the following:**

- 32 **(1) The executive director of the legislative services agency for**
- 33 **distribution to the members of the general assembly.**
- 34 **(2) The governor.**

35 **The report submitted to the executive director of the legislative**
 36 **services agency under subdivision (1) must be in an electronic**
 37 **format under IC 5-14-6.**

38 **Sec. 7. The legislative services agency shall provide staff support**
 39 **to the task force.**

40 **Sec. 8. This chapter expires July 1, 2023.**

41 **SECTION 2. IC 8-1-1-17 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE**
 42 **AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE**



1 UPON PASSAGE]: **Sec. 17. (a) Not later than June 1, 2022, the**
2 **commission shall issue a report containing a forecast of the**
3 **greenhouse gas emissions that will be produced in Indiana by the**
4 **power generation of investor owned utilities in each year from**
5 **2022 to 2050, based on the integrated resource plans filed by the**
6 **investor owned utilities under 170 IAC 4-7.**
7 **(b) Not later than June 1, 2022, the commission shall submit the**
8 **report issued under subsection (a) to the executive director of the**
9 **legislative services agency for distribution to the members of the**
10 **climate and environmental justice task force established by**
11 **IC 2-5-47. The report submitted under this subsection must be in**
12 **an electronic format under IC 5-14-6.**
13 **(c) This section expires July 1, 2023.**
14 **SECTION 3. An emergency is declared for this act.**

