

**SENATE  
STATE OF MINNESOTA  
NINETY-SECOND SESSION**

**S.F. No. 2526**

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DATE  
05/13/2021

D-PG

Introduction and first reading  
Referred to Energy and Utilities Finance and Policy

OFFICIAL STATUS

1.1 A bill for an act  
1.2 relating to energy; requiring a plan for an equitable, sustainable, and 100 percent  
1.3 renewable energy future that brings Minnesota's economy to net-zero greenhouse  
1.4 gas emissions; developing the plan through a stakeholder process; proposing coding  
1.5 for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 216C.

1.6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.7 Section 1. [216C.185] PLANNING STRATEGY FOR EQUITABLE, SUSTAINABLE  
1.8 ENERGY FUTURE BY 2040.

1.9 (a) The Department of Commerce Division of Energy Resources, in consultation with  
1.10 other state agencies and the Legislative Energy Commission, must develop a detailed plan  
1.11 to equitably transition the state of Minnesota to an economy fueled entirely by renewable  
1.12 energy that ends Minnesota's net greenhouse gas emissions with the urgency needed to  
1.13 address the climate crisis. The plan must be designed to achieve net-zero greenhouse gas  
1.14 emissions:

1.15 (1) using only renewable energy;

1.16 (2) in a manner that addresses energy and pollution burdens in communities located in  
1.17 environmental justice areas of concern; and

1.18 (3) on a timeline that enables Minnesota to be the first state in the nation to achieve these  
1.19 goals, but no later than 2040.

1.20 (b) In developing the plan for this economy-wide energy transition, the Division of  
1.21 Energy Resources must consult with stakeholders as design and development partners to  
1.22 identify (1) specific actions to take, and (2) a specific timeline to take the actions, in order  
1.23 to make Minnesota net-zero in greenhouse gas emissions using only renewable energy

2.1 resources to support the entire Minnesota economy. Stakeholders consulted must include  
2.2 but are not limited to:

2.3 (1) representatives from frontline communities, displaced workers, and neighborhoods  
2.4 in environmental justice areas of concern;

2.5 (2) representatives from cooperative, municipal, and investor-owned utilities;

2.6 (3) natural resources and environmental advocacy groups;

2.7 (4) representatives from labor, industry, and farming; and

2.8 (5) technical and scientific experts.

2.9 (c) The Division of Energy Resources and the stakeholders must consider the following  
2.10 when creating the plan:

2.11 (1) the economic and resulting environmental costs of continued reliance on fossil fuels  
2.12 and greenhouse gas emissions;

2.13 (2) the creation of jobs and industries in Minnesota that result from transitioning to a  
2.14 net-zero greenhouse gas emissions economy faster than other states;

2.15 (3) the appropriate energy efficiency and renewable energy investments needed in  
2.16 Minnesota to end the economic losses to the Minnesota economy resulting from importation  
2.17 of fossil fuels;

2.18 (4) the new technologies for energy efficiency, storage, transmission, and renewable  
2.19 generation needed to reliably meet the demand for energy; and

2.20 (5) changes in agriculture that sequester carbon in the soil, and the environmental benefits  
2.21 to ecosystems, water quality, and public health stemming from the agricultural changes.

2.22 (d) The plan must consider and, to the extent feasible, take advantage of all known  
2.23 technologies to facilitate net-zero greenhouse gas emissions and end fossil fuel use in power  
2.24 generation, heating and cooling, industry, agriculture, and transportation.

2.25 (e) The plan must, to the maximum extent feasible, (1) recognize the importance of  
2.26 inclusive community-driven processes in determining any actions and investments to achieve  
2.27 the goal, and (2) facilitate a sufficient flow of resources to ensure that the most impacted  
2.28 communities are supported as full partners in designing, developing, and delivering actions  
2.29 and investments.

2.30 (f) The Division of Energy Resources must deliver the plan to the legislative committees  
2.31 and divisions with jurisdiction over energy policy by January 15, 2023, and must report

- 3.1 annually thereafter on progress, technological advancements, and changing conditions that
- 3.2 may enable or necessitate acceleration toward attaining the net-zero economy.