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HOUSE BILL 1144

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State of Washington

65th Legislature

2017 Regular Session

By Representative Fitzgibbon

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

13      (iii) By 2050, the state will do its part to reach global climate  
14      stabilization levels by reducing overall emissions to ~~((fifty))~~  
15      eighty percent below 1990 levels~~((, or seventy percent below the~~  
16      ~~state's expected emissions that year))~~.

17      (b) By December 1, 2008, the department shall submit a greenhouse  
18      gas reduction plan for review and approval to the legislature,  
19      describing those actions necessary to achieve the emission reductions  
20      in (a) of this subsection by using existing statutory authority and  
21      any additional authority granted by the legislature. Actions taken

1 using existing statutory authority may proceed prior to approval of  
2 the greenhouse gas reduction plan.

3 (c) Except where explicitly stated otherwise, nothing in chapter  
4 14, Laws of 2008 limits any state agency authorities as they existed  
5 prior to June 12, 2008.

6 (d) Consistent with this directive, the department shall take the  
7 following actions:

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

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

14 (2) By December 31st of each even-numbered year beginning in  
15 2010, the department and the department of (~~community, trade, and~~  
16 ~~economic development~~) commerce shall report to the governor and the  
17 appropriate committees of the senate and house of representatives the  
18 total emissions of greenhouse gases for the preceding two years, and  
19 totals in each major source sector. The department shall ensure the  
20 reporting rules adopted under RCW 70.94.151 allow it to develop a  
21 comprehensive inventory of emissions of greenhouse gases from all  
22 significant sectors of the Washington economy.

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

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