
HOUSE BILL 1335

State of Washington

65th Legislature

2017 Regular Session

By Representative Tarleton

1 AN ACT Relating to the electrification of transportation
2 infrastructure; amending RCW 35.92.355; adding a new section to
3 chapter 35.92 RCW; and creating a new section.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that programs for
6 electrification of transportation have the potential to allow
7 electric utilities to optimize the use of electric grid
8 infrastructure, improve the management of electric loads, and better
9 manage the integration of variable renewable energy and energy
10 storage resources. Transportation electrification programs can
11 provide cost-effective energy efficiency through energy savings, more
12 efficient use of energy resources, and more efficient use of electric
13 distribution system resources and infrastructure. This cost-effective
14 energy efficiency results in cost savings and benefits for all
15 ratepayers. Additional potential benefits associated with
16 transportation electrification include the environmental attributes
17 associated with carbon reduction in the transportation sector.

18 The legislature further finds that the transportation sector is
19 Washington's largest contributor to greenhouse gas emissions and
20 hazardous air pollutants, as defined by federal national ambient air
21 quality standards and mobile source air toxics rules, and that state

1 policy can achieve the greatest return on investment in reducing
2 greenhouse gas emissions and improving air quality by expediting the
3 transition to alternative fuel vehicles and equipment, including
4 electric vehicles and equipment.

5 The legislature finds that as with traditional energy
6 conservation programs that provide financing for more efficient use
7 of energy in existing buildings and structures, programs that
8 directly provide for electrification of transportation or that
9 provide financing of such electrification have the potential to
10 enable utilities and their customers to achieve more efficient use of
11 energy resources and electric distribution system infrastructure.

12 **Sec. 2.** RCW 35.92.355 and 1993 c 204 s 5 are each amended to
13 read as follows:

14 The conservation of energy in all forms and by every possible
15 means is found and declared to be a public purpose of highest
16 priority. The legislature further finds and declares that all
17 municipal corporations, quasi_municipal corporations, and other
18 political subdivisions of the state which are engaged in the
19 generation, sale, or distribution of energy should be granted the
20 authority to develop and carry out programs which will conserve
21 resources, reduce waste, and encourage more efficient use of energy
22 and energy infrastructure by consumers and utilities.

23 In order to establish the most effective statewide program for
24 energy conservation and energy infrastructure efficiency, the
25 legislature hereby encourages any company, corporation, or
26 association engaged in selling or furnishing utility services to
27 assist their customers in the acquisition and installation of
28 materials and equipment, for compensation or otherwise, for the
29 conservation ((~~of~~)) and more efficient use of energy and energy
30 infrastructure, including electric vehicle supply equipment. The use
31 of appropriate tree plantings for energy conservation is encouraged
32 as part of these programs.

33 The legislature finds that utilities that are traditionally
34 responsible for providing electric service to customers, and for
35 understanding and engineering the electrical grid for safety and
36 reliability, must be engaged in the electrification of the
37 transportation system. The legislature further finds that it has
38 given utilities other policy authority to promote energy conservation
39 activities, which do not make the benefits of building out electric

1 vehicle supply equipment, as well as any subsequent increase in
2 energy consumption, readily apparent. Therefore, it is the intent of
3 the legislature to provide clear authority for utilities to engage in
4 and promote the build out of electric vehicle infrastructure.

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 35.92
6 RCW to read as follows:

7 Any city or town engaged in the generation, sale, or distribution
8 of energy and that has four hundred thousand or more customers may,
9 within limits established by the Constitution of the state of
10 Washington:

11 (1) Assist its customers in financing the acquisition and
12 installation of materials and equipment, for compensation or
13 otherwise, for the electrification of transportation; and

14 (2) Offer programs, services, or investments in the
15 electrification of transportation for its customers in such a way as
16 to benefit ratepayers, pursuant to an electrification of
17 transportation plan adopted by the governing body of the city or
18 town.

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