
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5991

State of Washington

63rd Legislature

2014 Regular Session

By Senate Energy, Environment & Telecommunications (originally sponsored by Senators Ericksen, Sheldon, Hewitt, Brown, Mullet, Honeyford, and Benton)

READ FIRST TIME 01/22/14.

1 AN ACT Relating to studying nuclear power as a replacement for
2 electricity generated from the combustion of fossil fuels; and creating
3 new sections.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that nuclear power is
6 a safe, reliable, cost-effective, and carbon-free source of
7 electricity. Accordingly, the legislature intends that nuclear power
8 should be studied as a possible replacement for electricity consumed in
9 the region that is generated from the combustion of fossil fuels.

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) A joint select task force on nuclear
11 energy is created to study how the state can advance and support the
12 generation of clean energy in the region through the use of nuclear
13 power. The task force must report any findings and recommendations to
14 the legislature by December 1, 2014.

15 (2) In its deliberations, the task force must consider the greatest
16 amount of environmental benefit for each dollar spent based on the
17 life-cycle cost of any nuclear power technology. Life-cycle costs must
18 include the storage and disposal of any nuclear wastes.

1 (3) The task force must consist of eight members that serve on the
2 legislative standing committees with primary jurisdiction over energy
3 issues. The president of the senate shall appoint two members from the
4 majority caucus and two members from the minority caucus. The speaker
5 of the house of representatives shall appoint two members from each
6 caucus.

7 (4) The members of the task force shall select from among their
8 members a chair and other officers as the task force deems appropriate.

9 (5) The task force must hold no more than four meetings, with two
10 of those meetings in Richland, Washington.

11 (6) The task force must be staffed by senate committee services and
12 the office of program research. All expenses and hiring of additional
13 staff shall be subject to the approval of the senate facilities and
14 operations committee and the house of representatives executive rules
15 committee.

16 (7) The task force terminates December 15, 2014.

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