

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Subject: Plug-in hybrid electric vehicle task force

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Overview

This bill establishes a plug-in hybrid electric vehicle task force and charges it with the responsibility of (1) identifying barriers to the adoption of plug-in hybrid electric vehicles by state agencies, small and large private fleets, and Minnesota drivers at large; and (2) developing strategies to be implemented over one-, three-, and five-year time frames to overcome those barriers. The task force would have to report to the legislature by April 1, 2007.

Section

1 Plug-in hybrid electric vehicle task force.

Subd. 1. Establishment; membership. Establishes a plug-in hybrid electric vehicle task force, to consist of 13 members, including one representative from each of the following:

- Xcel Energy;
- Great River Energy;
- Department of Commerce,
- Department of Transportation
- Pollution Control Agency;
- Travel Management Division, Department of Administration (this representative

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must be either the director of the division or the director's designee);

- University of Minnesota Department of Electrical Engineering;
- Minnesota-based manufacturers of electric batteries;
- Minnesota-based manufacturers of automotive parts;
- Minnesota-based manufacturers of power electronics;
- an environmental advocacy organization active in electricity issues;
- United Auto Workers Local 879; and
- Ford Motor Company.

Subd. 2. Appointment. Requires the chairs of the senate and house committees with primary jurisdiction over energy policy to jointly appoint task force members.

Subd. 3. Cochairs. Requires the task force to have two cochairs, one appointed by the senate committee chair with primary jurisdiction over energy policy and one appointed by the house committee chair with primary jurisdiction over energy policy.

Subd. 4. Charge. Requires the task force to: (1) identify barriers to the adoption of plug-in hybrid electric vehicles by state agencies, small and large private fleets, and Minnesota drivers at large; (2) develop strategies to be implemented over one-, three-, and five-year time frames to overcome those barriers. Provides that the task force must also consider possible financial incentives to encourage Ford Motor Company to produce plug-in hybrid, flexible fueled vehicles at its St. Paul plant. Requires the task force to consider the data presented under subdivision 5 when making findings and recommendations.

Subd. 5. Data and analysis. Requires the commissioner of administration to analyze and report to the task force the economic impacts (as specified) of purchasing enough plug-in hybrid electric vehicles to comprise 10 %, 25 %, and 50 % of the state-owned fleet. Also requires the commissioner of the pollution control agency to analyze and report to the task force the environmental impacts (as specified) of purchasing plug-in hybrid electric vehicles for the state-owned fleet and at penetration rates of 10 %, 25 %, and 50 % of all motor vehicles registered in Minnesota.

Subd. 6. Expenses. Provides for reimbursement of task force members' expenses.

Subd. 7. Staff. Requires the state agencies represented to provide staff support.

Subd. 8. Report. Requires the task force to report findings and recommendations to the chairs of the senate and house committees with primary jurisdiction over energy policy and state government operations by April 1, 2007.

Subd. 9. Definitions. Defines "plug-in hybrid electric vehicles" for purposes of this section.

Effective date. Makes this section effective the day following final enactment.