

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Authors: Hilty

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Analyst: Bob Eleff

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Section

1 [3.8851] Legislative energy commission.

Subd. 1. Establishment. Establishes the Legislative Energy Commission.

Subd. 2. Membership. Specifies the composition of the commission – six members from both bodies – and that cochairs are to be elected by each body.

Subd. 3. Subcommittees. Allows for the establishment of subcommittees.

Subd. 4. Staff. Specifies that the commission may hire full- and part-time staff and engage consultants.

Subd. 5. General duties. Specifies the commission's duties, which include:

- evaluating state energy policies and the degree to which they promote an environmentally and economically sustainable future;
- monitoring the state's progress in meeting the renewable energy standard (section 216B.1691) and the greenhouse gas emissions reduction goal (section 216H.02); and
- reviewing and recommending legislation.

Subd. 6. Hearings. Requires the commission to hold hearings on specific plans

Section

and reports, including:

- Xcel Energy's integrated resource plan;
- the transmissions projects report; and
- the Department of Commerce's energy policy and conservation report.

Subd. 7. Data from state agencies. Requires state agencies to reply promptly to data requests from the commission.

Subd. 8. Subpoena power. Authorizes the commission to issue a subpoena for information relevant to its work.

Subd. 9. Assessment; appropriation. Requires the commissioner of commerce to assess, at the request of the commission's cochairs, an amount up to \$250,000 for the commission's operations from all utilities providing electric and gas service and all bulk terminals dispensing petroleum products and propane for sale in this state, on a Btu basis.

Subd. 10. Funds transfer. Transfers any unexpended funds of the Legislative Electric Energy Task Force to the Legislative Coordinating Commission for use by the commission.

2 [216B.2424] Subd.1. Farm-grown closed-loop biomass. Retains the definition of farm-grown closed-loop biomass currently contained in provisions under the Legislative Electric Energy Task Force, which language is repealed in section 3.

3 Repealer. Repeals language pertaining to the Legislative Electric Energy Task Force.