

House Research Act Summary

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Overview

This act includes two separate provisions. The first provides that funds in the renewable energy account shall be spent only after approval by the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) and that a preference shall be given to projects within the state. The act also allows a utility with a renewable energy account to recover funds spent from the account in the rates of its customers. Second, the act provides a preference for wind energy projects in the state for the 200 megawatts of wind energy capacity required to be installed by December 31, 2002.

- 1 Renewable development account.** Modifies the provision governing expenditures from the renewable development account by requiring that preference be given to renewable energy projects within the state and by providing that money in the account may only be spent after receiving PUC approval.
- 2 Recovery of expenses.** Provides that expenditures from the renewable development account are recoverable by the utility in its rates.
- 3 Site preference.** Provides that a preference shall be given to wind energy projects in the state with regard to the 200 megawatts of wind energy capacity required to be installed by December 31, 2002, but does not require wind energy projects to be built in the state if the PUC determines that building such projects in the state is inconsistent with providing just and reasonable rates for the utility customers.
- 4 Effective date.** Provides that sections 1 to 3 are effective the day following final enactment.