

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

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House Energy Committee,
Co-Chair

Community and Regional
Affairs Committee

State Affairs Committee

Joined Armed Services
Committee

REPRESENTATIVE KY HOLLAND

HB 369 ver G Sponsor Statement

HB 369 "ENERGY, ELECTRIC UTILITIES" or the Energy Affordability Omnibus

Alaska faces some of the highest energy costs in the nation. These high costs place a significant burden on households, businesses, and communities, and they constrain economic growth and investment across the state. House Bill 369 updates the Alaska Energy Policy and provides a comprehensive and forward-looking framework to improve energy affordability, reliability, and stability while ensuring rural and urban Railbelt Alaskans continue to benefit from its diverse energy resources.

In addition, House Bill 369 strengthens oversight, transparency, and coordination in state energy programs. It improves reporting timelines for renewable energy grant programs and updates Alaska's state energy policy to reflect modern technologies, workforce development needs, and emerging opportunities such as geologic hydrogen and advanced energy systems. HB 369 establishes a diversified portfolio standard that sets a clear, achievable goal for load-serving entities to supply 40 percent of electricity from diversified energy resources by 2036, shaping the integrated resource planning process. This flexible, Alaska-specific approach ensures utilities have the tools to pursue the most cost-effective and reliable energy solutions for their customers, including renewables, nuclear energy, and even clean coal. There is also a mechanism to allow for the standard to resolve itself if a Phase 2 gasline becomes operational and North Slope gas becomes the clear lowest cost option for Southcentral Alaska's energy needs.

Ultimately, House Bill 369 updates the Alaska Energy Policy and supports lowering energy costs, improving reliability, and strengthening Alaska's energy security. By providing clear goals, flexible compliance tools, and support for innovation, this legislation will help ensure that Alaska's energy future is affordable, reliable, and sustainable for decades to come.

Version G of this bill removes divisive sections of Version A and otherwise strengthens its support of the integrated resource plan. It also adds in sections that will reduce the cost of electricity by ensuring that electric utilities do not face excessive lawsuits related to wildfires they have no control over, while requiring wildland fire mitigation plans that will help keep Alaskans safe.