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8/11/09

HOUSE BILL NO.

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY**Introduced:****Referred:****A BILL****FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

1 "An Act declaring a state energy policy."

2 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

3 * **Section 1.** AS 44.99 is amended by adding a new section to read:

4 **Sec. 44.99.115. Declaration of state energy policy.** (a) It is the policy of the
5 state to attain a goal of an adequate, reliable, affordable, and sustainable supply of
6 energy from domestic sources to serve as the foundation of the state's well-being and
7 to sustain its economic prosperity. To that end, the state is committed to

8 (1) implement the objective of 50 percent energy production from
9 renewable sources by 2025; and

10 (2) initiate and support a program to educate state residents on the
11 benefits of energy efficiency and conservation.

12 (b) To implement the goal and objectives described in (a) of this section, it is
13 the policy of the state actively to promote the development of its

14 (1) nonrenewable energy resources, including natural gas, coal, oil, gas
15 hydrates, heavy oil, and nuclear energy; and

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1 (2) renewable energy resources, including tidal, wave, hydroelectric,
2 geothermal, solar, wind, and biomass energy.

3 (c) In the development of the energy resources of the state as described in (b)
4 of this section, it is the policy of the state to

5 (1) pursue, promote, and reward energy efficiency and conservation;

6 (2) promote the rational development of resources and infrastructure to
7 meet the state's growing energy demand and contribute to the national energy supply,
8 thus reducing dependence on international energy sources;

9 (3) promote energy security for the state;

10 (4) seek solutions that address global climate change;

11 (5) develop flat-priced, zero-fuel-cost energy resources as part of a
12 diversified energy supply portfolio;

13 (6) allow market forces to drive prudent development and use of
14 energy resources; however, appropriate incentives and other methods may be used to
15 ensure the optimal long-term development and use of energy resources for the benefit
16 of current and future generations of Alaskans;

17 (7) to complete a thorough review and streamline regulatory processes
18 to balance economic costs with the level of review necessary to ensure protection of
19 the state's interests;

20 (8) encourage expedited federal action when necessary and collaborate
21 with federal agencies to expedite review;

22 (9) create and maintain an environment that provides for reasonable
23 and stable consumer and industrial prices while providing producers and suppliers a
24 fair return on investment, recognizing that

25 (A) economic prosperity is linked to the availability, reliability,
26 and affordability of consumer and industrial energy supplies; and

27 (B) investment in new energy supplies occurs only when
28 adequate financial returns can be realized;

29 (10) encourage utilities to consolidate resources when feasible;

30 (11) invest money to research new technologies and consider those
31 new technologies for energy projects when feasible;

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1 (12) incorporate energy-efficient technologies in new construction of
2 public buildings;

3 (13) continue investing in regional energy projects to ensure equity in
4 costs and benefits;

5 (14) support regional initiatives for fuel purchase and storage and
6 energy diversification, conservation, and education;

7 (15) provide funding for immediate or short-term programs that
8 address current energy requirements while long-term solutions are developed;

9 (16) use the state's energy resources to provide affordable
10 transportation, heat, and electricity to residents as the first priority;

11 (17) monitor federal energy legislation relating to climate change and
12 track potential monetary penalties on carbon emissions; and

13 (18) establish a workforce development program to ensure that
14 residents have opportunities to enter new energy-related jobs.