

HCS HB 2050 -- UTILITIES

SPONSOR: Miller

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Standing Committee on Utilities by a vote of 10 to 3. Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Rules- Legislative Oversight by a vote of 9 to 1.

The following is a summary of the House Committee Substitute for HB 2050.

Currently, the Missouri Energy Efficiency Investment Act allows electrical corporations to implement demand-side programs to reduce energy usage and achieve cost-effective demand-side savings. This bill would allow the commission to approve similar programs for gas corporations.

The bill also specifies that an implementation impact report is not necessary for an implementation plan developed to implement the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's existing-source performance standards.

The bill also requires the Division of Energy within the Department of Natural Resources to review, by January 1, 2022, the comprehensive state energy plan and update if necessary using funding through the U.S. Department of Energy. The plan shall be reviewed biennially thereafter to ensure certain listed goals and updated as needed. The division shall use a diverse stakeholder input system either directly or by contracting with a qualified organization, and issue a report along with each review, suggesting policy changes. The division must submit the report to the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President Pro Tem of the Senate.

This bill is similiar to SB 688(2020).

The following is a summary of the public testimony from the committee hearing. The testimony was based on the introduced version of the bill.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that this bill would require a State Energy Plan, which is a road map for the future energy needs of the state. The plan would be reviewed each year to ensure that the state is on the right path. Many industries look for an energy plan when deciding where to locate and this plan would provide them with information on the energy resources and planning in Missouri.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Miller; Josh Campbell,

Missouri Energy Initiative; Missouri Association of Municipal Utilities; and Summit Utilities.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

OTHERS: Others testifying on the bill say with the discussion of amendments to the bill, more information is needed to support any changes.

Testifying on the bill was the Missouri Energy Development Association.