

Amendment to HB 1664-FN

1 Amend the title of the bill by replacing it with the following:

2
3 AN ACT establishing greenhouse gas emission reduction goals for the state and establishing a
4 climate action plan.
5

6 Amend the bill by replacing all after the enacting clause with the following:

7
8 1 Findings. The general court finds:

9 I. Climate change has a demonstrated and researched-backed impact in New Hampshire
10 and around the globe on human health and safety, including increased natural disasters and
11 increased, intensifying extreme weather, causing damage to ecosystems, agriculture, forestry, social
12 systems, and infrastructure; increased risks of waterborne and foodborne diseases, increased risks of
13 vector-borne diseases, and increased range and distribution of disease-carrying insects.

14 II. The United States economy will decrease by 10 percent by the end of the 21st century
15 according to the U.S. Global Change Research Program, if significant steps are not taken to address
16 and reduce global warming.

17 III. The solutions to climate change, in the form of energy conservation, energy efficiency,
18 strategic electrification, renewable energy, and natural resource protection have already resulted in
19 significant economic, social, and environmental benefits to the New Hampshire.

20 IV. Greater opportunities to address the causes of climate change remain, and delaying
21 action will result in substantial lost opportunities for the state to benefit from the economic
22 development associated with additional deep investments in energy conservation, energy efficiency,
23 strategic electrification, renewable energy, and natural resource protection.

24 2 New Subdivision; Climate Action Plan. Amend RSA 125-O by inserting after section 29 the
25 following new subdivision:

26 Climate Action Plan

27 125-O:30 Climate Action Plan.

28 I. The department of environmental services shall establish an annual greenhouse gas
29 inventory. Beginning in calendar year 2021, the commissioner shall submit the annual greenhouse
30 gas inventory report to be made available to the public on or before January 15 to governor, the
31 senate president, the speaker of the house of representatives, the chair of the senate energy and
32 natural resources committee, the chair of the house science, technology and energy committee, the

Amendment to HB 1664-FN
- Page 2 -

1 house clerk, the senate clerk, the energy efficiency and sustainable energy board, and the state
2 government energy committee. The inventory shall:

3 (a) Shall be established with calendar year 1990 as the baseline year, and using
4 scientifically valid methodologies that are consistent with surrounding state and federal practices.

5 (b) Be inclusive of each sector of the New Hampshire economy, as well as include a
6 similar comprehensive greenhouse gas inventory for the State of New Hampshire.

7 (c) Include an analysis of the greenhouse gas emissions that occur within the geographic
8 boundaries of New Hampshire, as well as an analysis of the total life-cycle greenhouse gas
9 emissions, which account for the emissions that occur in other states, regions, and nations, but are
10 incurred as a result of New Hampshire actions.

11 II. The public policy of the state of New Hampshire is to reduce statewide greenhouse gas
12 emissions to:

13 (a) At least 20 percent below 1990 levels by 2025;

14 (b) At least 50 percent below 1990 levels by 2035; and

15 (c) At least 80 percent below 1990 levels by 2050.

16 III. Each state agency with jurisdiction over activities that impact greenhouse gas emissions
17 shall incorporate these goals into project planning, rulemaking, and funding determinations going
18 forward, inclusive of the department of environmental services, the public utilities commission, the
19 department of transportation, the office of strategic initiative, the department of administrative
20 services, the department of business and economic affairs, and the department of agriculture.

21 IV.(a) By July 1, 2022, the department of environmental services shall, after a period of
22 public comment, prepare and adopt a plan for achieving the limits and interim limits established
23 pursuant to paragraph II. This plan shall be reviewed and updated by the department every 5
24 years.

25 (b) The plan shall include strategies, programs, and compliance mechanisms with
26 measurable goals and targets, including, but not limited to: development of market-based programs;
27 expanding financing and investment tools; modernizing the electrical grid, electric sector regulations
28 and rates; supporting strategic electrification and fuel switching; promoting combined heat and
29 power systems; modifying the renewable energy standard and procurement; expanding least-cost
30 energy procurement (including to unregulated fuels); improving state energy efficiency codes and
31 standards, and compliance therewith; addressing natural gas leaks; promoting alternative fuel and
32 electric vehicles; increasing use and availability of efficient public transport; and changing land-use
33 patterns to support transit-oriented development and mixed-use commercial and residential areas.

34 (c) In developing this plan, the department shall:

35 (1) Evaluate the best available scientific, technological, and economic information on
36 greenhouse gas emissions.

Amendment to HB 1664-FN
- Page 3 -

1 (2) Minimize reductions in greenhouse gas emissions in New Hampshire that are
2 offset by increases in emissions of greenhouse gases outside of New Hampshire.

3 (3) Consider opportunities to encourage public and private investment toward rural,
4 low-income, low to moderate income, and minority communities in New Hampshire and provide an
5 opportunity for small businesses, schools, affordable housing associations, and other community
6 institutions to participate in and benefit from statewide efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

7 (4) Ensure that activities undertaken to comply with the regulations do not
8 disproportionately impact rural, low-income, low to moderate income, or minority communities.

9 (5) Target broad distribution of economic opportunities geographically and
10 demographically, maximizing opportunities for workers and communities that may lose employment
11 opportunities.

12 (6) Consult with the public utilities commission, the department of transportation,
13 the department of agriculture, markets, and food, and the office of strategic initiatives throughout
14 the plan development process to ensure the greenhouse gas emissions reduction activities to be
15 adopted and implemented by the department are complementary, non-duplicative, and can be
16 implemented in an efficient and cost-effective manner.

17 (7) Consult with other states, the federal government, and other nations to identify
18 the most effective strategies and methods to reduce greenhouse gases, manage greenhouse gas
19 control programs, and to facilitate the development of integrated and cost-effective regional,
20 national, and international greenhouse gas reduction programs.

21 (d) The department of environmental services, in conjunction with the public utilities
22 commission, the department of transportation, the department of agriculture, markets, and food,
23 and the office of strategic initiatives will develop a report regarding the plan, including areas of
24 progress, barriers, and emerging opportunities in years 2 and 4 following the release of the plan and
25 its updates. The commissioner of environmental services shall submit the report to be made
26 available to the public on or before January 15 of the required years to the governor, the senate
27 president, the speaker of the house of representatives, the chair of the senate energy and natural
28 resources committee, the chair of the house science, technology and energy committee, the house
29 clerk, the senate clerk, the energy efficiency and sustainable energy board, and the state government
30 energy committee.

31 3 New Hampshire Energy Policy. Amend RSA 378:37 to read as follows:

32 378:37 New Hampshire Energy Policy. The general court declares that it shall be the energy
33 policy of this state to meet the energy needs of the citizens and businesses of the state at the lowest
34 reasonable cost while providing for the reliability and diversity of energy sources; to maximize the
35 use of *all* cost effective energy efficiency and other demand side resources; *achieving the*
36 *greenhouse gas emission goals identified in RSA 125-O:30, II* and to protect the safety and
37 health of the citizens, the physical environment of the state, and the future supplies of resources

1 *from climate change and its associated environmental impacts*, with *due* consideration of
2 *both* the financial stability of the state's utilities *and the financial costs imposed by climate*
3 *change on the state, its citizens, and businesses.*

4 4 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.

Amendment to HB 1664-FN
- Page 5 -

2020-0130h

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill establishes greenhouse gas emission reduction goals for the state and gives the department of environmental services the authority to develop and update regularly a climate action plan.