HB 504 - AS INTRODUCED

2025 SESSION

25-0529
06/02

HOUSE BILL ***504***

AN ACT relative to the state energy policy.

SPONSORS: Rep. Vose, Rock. 5; Rep. Ammon, Hills. 42; Rep. Berezhny, Graf. 11; Rep. Bernardy, Rock. 36; Rep. Cambrils, Merr. 4; Rep. Harrington, Straf. 18; Rep. Hill, Merr. 2; Rep. McFarlane, Graf. 18; Rep. Moffett, Merr. 4; Rep. Notter, Hills. 12

COMMITTEE: Science, Technology and Energy

ANALYSIS

This bill revises the state energy policy to promote affordable, reliable, and secure energy resources for the health, safety, and welfare of its citizens.

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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty Five

AN ACT relative to the state energy policy.

Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:

1 New Hampshire Energy Policy. RSA 378:37 is repealed and reenacted to read as follows:
378:37 New Hampshire Energy Policy.

I. It is the policy of the sovereign state of New Hampshire and purpose of this chapter, to promote affordable, reliable, and secure energy resources for the health, safety, and welfare of its citizens.

(a) New Hampshire shall promote the development of resources to achieve the purpose of this chapter without preference toward technology type, with an emphasis on reliable, on-demand, and firm resources.

(b) New Hampshire shall promote the development of resources, tools, and infrastructure to enhance the state's ability to ensure the state's energy independence by removing regulatory barriers to innovation to ensure that the state can procure affordable, reliable, and secure energy resources.

(c) New Hampshire shall allow market forces to drive prudent use of energy resources. Government intervention to economically advantage one technology over another should be time-limited, narrow, and necessary to achieve a specific policy goal.

(d) New Hampshire shall pursue energy conservation and efficiency according to market principles and in accordance with cost-effective fiscal strategies as authorized by the legislature.

(e) New Hampshire shall maintain an environment that allows for accurate market signals while balancing low consumer prices, price stability, energy reliability, and the financial stability of utilities and energy suppliers.

(f) State regulatory processes shall balance economic costs with the level of review necessary to ensure protection of the state's various interests, and where federal action is required, New Hampshire will collaborate to encourage expedited federal review and action.

II. Loss of In-State Electrical Generation Capacity.

(a) An in-state electricity generator that receives notice of any external regulatory action that makes continued operation economically infeasible or may result in the involuntary retirement or decommissioning of the generator's facility shall inform the commissioner of the department of energy of the notice and regulation within 30 days after the receipt of said notice.

(b) After being informed of a generator's involuntary retirement or decommissioning as described in RSA 378:37, II(a), the department of energy shall open an investigatory docket to determine how such an involuntary retirement or decommissioning would affect the reliability and

affordability of the state's energy resources and to recommend any action necessary to defend the generator, including appealing to the attorney general to file an action in court or to participate in administrative proceedings.

(c) The department of energy and the department of justice may seek funding from the legislative fiscal committee to conduct any actions described in RSA 378:37, II(b).

III. Any act or omission by a state agency inconsistent with this section shall not form the basis of any civil suit including, but not limited to, those seeking equitable relief or claiming damages.

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