

Joint Committee on Ways and Means

Carrier – House: Rep. G. Smith
Carrier – Senate: Sen. Edwards

Revenue: No revenue impact

Fiscal: No fiscal impact

Action: Do Pass as Amended and as Printed A-Engrossed

Vote: 17 – 8 – 0

House

Yeas: Beyer, Buckley, Cowan, Kotek, Nathanson, Nolan, Richardson, G. Smith, Thatcher

Nays: Freeman, Garrard, Komp, McLane, Whisnant

Exc:

Senate

Yeas: Bates, Devlin, Edwards, Johnson, Monroe, Nelson, Verger, Winters

Nays: Girod, Thomsen, Whitsett

Exc:

Prepared By: Michelle Deister, Legislative Fiscal Office

Meeting Date: June 20, 2011

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Ratifies fees enacted by the Department of Energy via administrative rule during the 2009-11 biennium, to cover administrative costs associated with evaluation of projects under a tiered Business Energy Tax Credit program (HB 3680, 2010 Legislative Session), and the enactment of the Biomass Tax Credit Program (HB 2078, 2009 Legislative Session).

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Background regarding why fees are necessary

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Revises amount of biomass tax credit, consistent with amounts charged for BETC Renewable projects that are approved for precertification.

BACKGROUND: HB 3680 (2010) enacted a “tiered” system and caps on the amounts of credits that can be issued for renewable energy projects. The fees in HB 5512 were enacted administratively to cover costs associated with evaluating and ranking applications and project amendments to ensure they meet new program criteria enacted via HB 3680.

Section 1(2) is a separate fee for a biomass tax credit, enacted pursuant to HB 2078 in 2009. The credit didn’t exist before the passage of HB 2078, and SB 5512 will ratify the Department’s ability to charge a fee to cover costs associated with evaluation of applications, and certifying projects as eligible for tax credits.