

House Bill 3431

Sponsored by Representative WEIDNER

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Establishes Task Force on Geothermal Energy. Directs task force to study matters related to use of geothermal energy.

Sunsets task force on date of convening of 2015 regular session of Legislative Assembly.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to geothermal energy; and declaring an emergency.

3 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

4 **SECTION 1. (1) The Task Force on Geothermal Energy is established, consisting of nine**
5 **members appointed as follows:**

6 (a) **The President of the Senate shall appoint two members from among members of the**
7 **Senate.**

8 (b) **The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint two members from among**
9 **members of the House of Representatives.**

10 (c) **The Governor shall appoint five members as follows:**

11 (A) **One member who is a faculty member or employee of Oregon State University in the**
12 **field of renewable energy;**

13 (B) **One member who is a member of the Public Utility Commission;**

14 (C) **One member who is an officer or employee of a corporation developing geothermal**
15 **energy facilities;**

16 (D) **One member who is an officer or elected official of a consumer-owned utility in this**
17 **state; and**

18 (E) **One member who is an officer or employee of a public utility in this state.**

19 (2) **The task force shall:**

20 (a) **Study and report on the methods of providing geothermal energy resources;**

21 (b) **Provide an analysis of the costs and benefits of using geothermal energy to provide**
22 **for this state's energy needs, using all available technologies; and**

23 (c) **Recommend a strategy for the contribution of geothermal energy to the provision of**
24 **continued abundant, inexpensive and environmentally sound energy for this state.**

25 (3) **A majority of the members of the task force constitutes a quorum for the transaction**
26 **of business.**

27 (4) **Official action by the task force requires the approval of a majority of the members**
28 **of the task force.**

29 (5) **The task force shall elect one of its members to serve as chairperson.**

30 (6) **If there is a vacancy for any cause, the appointing authority shall make an appoint-**

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 **ment to become immediately effective.**

2 **(7) The task force shall meet at times and places specified by the call of the chairperson**
3 **or of a majority of the members of the task force.**

4 **(8) The task force may adopt rules necessary for the operation of the task force.**

5 **(9) The task force shall submit a report, and include recommendations for legislation, to**
6 **an interim committee of the Legislative Assembly related to energy no later than September**
7 **1, 2014.**

8 **(10) The State Department of Energy and the Public Utility Commission shall provide**
9 **staff support to the task force.**

10 **(11) Members of the task force who are not members of the Legislative Assembly are not**
11 **entitled to compensation.**

12 **(12) All agencies of state government, as defined in ORS 174.111, are directed to assist**
13 **the task force in the performance of its duties and, to the extent permitted by laws relating**
14 **to confidentiality, to furnish such information and advice as the members of the task force**
15 **consider necessary to perform their duties.**

16 **SECTION 2. Section 1 of this 2013 Act is repealed on the date of the convening of the 2015**
17 **regular session of the Legislative Assembly as specified in ORS 171.010.**

18 **SECTION 3. This 2013 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public**
19 **peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2013 Act takes effect**
20 **on its passage.**

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