FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

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Measure Description:

Adds woody biomass as an alternative to including green energy technology in constructing, reconstructing or renovating public buildings.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Department of Energy, Department of Environmental Quality, Statewide

Summary of Expenditure Impact:

It is anticipated that there may be some costs, although the amount of such costs is indeterminate. In general, costs are expected to be minimal.

Analysis:

The measure authorizes the use of woody biomass energy technology as an alternative to including green energy technology as part of construction, reconstruction, or major renovation of a public building under the following conditions:

- It creates new energy generation capacity;
- It is in an area in compliance with the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) standards for emission particulate matter or that does not comply with the standards, uses pelletized fuel or produces the same or lower level of particulate matter than pelletized fuel; and
- The contracting agency has considered environmental impacts.

The measure also grants authority to DEQ to require additional emission control technology.

In general, agencies indicate costs related to the measure would be minimal. given that there is already a requirement related to green energy technology. However, agency contracting offices and local governments may have some costs related to incorporating the changes into their processes, although these costs are indeterminate and, again, likely to be minimal. In addition, DEQ and the Department of Energy will have some specific rule and process changes to implement the measure; these costs are also anticipated to be minimal.