

SB 1519

A New Era for the Oregon Department of Energy

2016 - -A BIPARTISAN/BICAMERAL JOINT COMMITTEE, CHAIRED BY SENATOR LEE BEYER AND REPRESENTATIVE PAUL HOLVEY, WAS TASKED TO EVALUATE THE OREGON DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY, IT'S OPERATION AND IT'S STRUCTURE.

AT THE END OF THE EVALUATION PERIOD, THE CO-CHAIRS PUT FORWARD LEGISLATION.

THE MINORITY MEMBERS ALSO AUTHORED LEGISLATION

THE TWO PIECES OF LEGISLATION WERE VERY SIMILAR

SENATOR BEYER AND I MELDED THE TWO BILLS TOGETHER AND RESOLVED THE INCONSISTENCIES.

THE FOLLOWING PRODUCT, LOCATED IN AMENDED VERSION OF SB 1519 INCLUDES ALL ASPECTS OF BOTH BILLS, PLUS

. A NEW POLICY STATEMENT

Section 1. ORS 469.010 is amended to read:

469.010. The Legislative Assembly finds and declares that [:]

Continued growth in demand for energy, at an affordable cost, poses a serious and immediate, as well as future, concern.

It is the goal of Oregon to promote the efficient use of energy resources consistent with state environmental policy. It is therefore the policy of Oregon:

That the development and use of a diverse array of affordable, sustainable, energy resources be encouraged.

That through state government example, policy and other effective communications, energy conservation and elimination of wasteful and uneconomical uses of energy and materials be promoted.

That the energy-efficient modes of transportation shall be encouraged.

That cost-effectiveness, balanced with environmental policy considerations be considered in agency decision making relating to energy sources, facilities or conservation.

That state government shall provide a source of impartial and objective information in order that this energy policy be enhanced.

2. A NEW ENERGY COMMISSION

1. Energy Commission:

a. Six members

- i. One economist
- ii. One with energy background focusing on energy research
- iii. One representing residential energy users
- iv. One representing commercial energy users
- v. One representing industrial energy users
- vi. One with transportation expertise

b. Ex-Officio non-voting members include:

- i. One member from Pacific Northwest Electric Power and Conservation Planning Council
- ii. One representative of Investor owned electric utilities
- iii. One representative of consumer owned electric utilities
- iv. One representative of investor owned natural gas utilities

4. Rulemaking authority will be transferred to the new Oregon Energy Commission
5. The SELP program will be transferred to OBDD
6. Department of Energy will provide Energy plan to Legislative Body
7. ESA is fixed at .15%
 - a. Payments are exempt if less than \$2500.00