

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 49th Legislature (2004)

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
FOR
HOUSE BILL NO. 2351

By: Bengé

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

An Act relating to fuel cell technology; creating the Fuel Cell Initiative Task Force; establishing membership; providing for certain appointments; providing for meetings; providing for reimbursement; providing for staffing; stating purpose; requiring a report; providing certain contingency for creation of the task force; and providing for noncodification.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law not to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes reads as follows:

A. There is hereby created until February 1, 2005, the "Fuel Cell Initiative Task Force".

B. The Task Force shall be composed of twelve (12) members as follows:

1. A member of the House of Representatives to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;

2. A member of the Senate to be appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate;

3. The Secretary of Energy or a designee;

4. The Secretary of Environment or a designee;

5. A representative from the State Energy office housed at the Oklahoma Department of Commerce;

6. Two lay members of the private sector to be appointed by the Governor;

7. One representative from the University of Oklahoma to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;

8. One representative from Oklahoma State University to be appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate;

9. The Executive Director of Oklahoma Center for the Advancement of Science and Technology or a designee;

10. A representative from the Electric Vehicle Training Center to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives; and

11. A representative from the Oklahoma Technology Commercialization Center to be appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate.

C. The chair shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives. The vice-chair shall be appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate. The chair shall convene the first meeting of the Task Force. The members of the Task Force shall elect any other officers during the first meeting and upon a vacancy in any office. The Task Force shall meet as often as necessary. Task Force members employed by the state shall be reimbursed travel expenses related to their service on the Task Force by the Department of Commerce. Legislative members of the Task Force shall be reimbursed by the Department of Commerce for their necessary travel expenses incurred in the performance of their duties. The Task Force shall be authorized to conduct meetings by videoconference. Remaining Task Force members shall also be reimbursed travel expenses related to their service on the Task Force by the Department of Commerce.

D. Administrative support for the Task Force, including, but not limited to, personnel necessary to ensure the proper performance of the duties and responsibilities of the Task Force, shall be provided by the staff of the House of Representatives and the Senate. All participating state agencies and entities shall provide for any administrative support requested by the Task Force.

E. The Task Force shall study and make recommendations regarding:

1. The state of the industry or of specific components of the industry, alternative programs to accelerate the commercial availability of fuel cells, including similar efforts by other states;

2. Programs considered to encourage the industry to locate manufacturing, system integration or related component parts or services to this state;

3. The development of a statewide plan for the coordinated effort of the commercialization of fuel cell generation in this state, including the ongoing monitoring of the industry and communication with fuel cell manufacturers; and

4. Tax or other economic incentives.

F. The Task Force shall make a report to the Governor, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the appropriate committees of the State Senate and the Oklahoma House of Representatives by January 1, 2005. The report shall be prepared by the administrative staff of the affected agencies.

G. The Fuel Cell Initiative Task Force shall be created only if federal funds are obtained by the Oklahoma Department of Commerce for the expenses of the Task Force by May 31, 2004.

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