

AN ACT relating to Public Service Commission members.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:

➔Section 1. A task force of the Legislative Research Commission shall be created to study issues surrounding increasing utility rates. The task force shall consist of three senators selected by the President of the Senate and three representatives selected by the Speaker of the House. The task force shall be chaired by the co-chairs of the Special Subcommittee on Energy. The task force shall prepare a report of its findings. The report shall be delivered to the Legislative Research Commission on or before December 15, 2011.

➔Section 2. The study shall evaluate the following:

(1) Alternative methods of constituting the commission, including the creation of additional seats on the commission and methods for selecting commissioners. The experience of states that have adopted these methods, their cost, and the effect on utility rates shall be considered;

(2) Strategies for increasing ratepayer input into the ratemaking process;

(3) Factors driving utility rate increases and the methods by which these factors can be managed;

(4) Methods to mitigate the impact of rate increases and increase protections for vulnerable ratepayers; and

(5) Issues affecting cost of capital and access to capital by utilities and how these factors affect each other;

➔Section 3. The Legislative Research Commission shall have the authority to alternatively assign the issues identified herein to an interim joint committee or subcommittee thereof and to designate a study completion date.