

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2023 REGULAR SESSION

ENROLLED

Committee Substitute

for

House Bill 2814

BY DELEGATES YOUNG, ANDERSON, ZATEZALO, HECKERT

AND CLARK

[Passed March 10, 2023; in effect ninety days from passage.]

1 AN ACT to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto a new article,
2 designated §24-2I-1 and §24-2I-2, all relating to the creation of a Hydrogen Power Task
3 Force in West Virginia; providing for a short title; providing for the establishment of the
4 task force; providing for membership appointments and management; establishing a duty
5 of the task force to study hydrogen-fueled energy in West Virginia; providing specific topics
6 of study; providing a reporting requirement; and providing for a sunset date of July 1, 2024.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

ARTICLE 2I. HYDROGEN POWER TASK FORCE

§24-2I-1. Title.

1 This article shall be known as "Hydrogen Power Task Force Act".

§24-2I-2. Establishment of the task force.

1 (a) There is hereby established a task force to study hydrogen-fueled energy in West
2 Virginia's economy and energy infrastructure. Such study shall include, without limitation:

3 (1) A review of regulations and legislation needed to guide the development and
4 achievement of economies of scale for a hydrogen energy ecosystem in the state;

5 (2) An examination of how to position the state to take advantage of competitive incentives
6 and programs created by the federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act and the federal
7 Inflation Reduction Act;

8 (3) Recommendations for post-secondary education or workforce initiatives to prepare the
9 state's workforce for hydrogen fueled energy-related jobs;

10 (4) An examination of the sources of potential hydrogen, including, but not limited to, coal,
11 oil, natural gas, hydro, wind, solar, biogas, and nuclear;

12 (5) Recommendations for funding and tax preferences for building hydrogen-fueled
13 energy facilities at sites throughout West Virginia;

14 (6) Recommendations regarding funding sources for developing hydrogen fueled energy
15 programs and infrastructure; and

16 (7) Recommendations for potential end uses of hydrogen-fueled energy.

17 (b) The task force shall consist of the following members:

18 (1) A representative from a regulated electric utility company, who shall be appointed by
19 the Governor;

20 (2) A representative from the fossil fuel energy industry, who shall be appointed by the
21 Governor;

22 (3) A representative from the manufacturing industry with experience in hydrogen-fueled
23 energy technology, who shall be appointed by the Governor;

24 (4) A representative from environmental organizations that advocate for renewable
25 energy, who shall be appointed by the Governor;

26 (5) The chairperson of the Public Service Commission or his or her designee;

27 (6) The Secretary of the Department of Environmental Protection or his or her designee;

28 (7) The Secretary of the Department of Economic Development or his or her designee;

29 (8) The Secretary of the Department of Commerce or his or her designee;

30 and

31 (9) A representative from higher education.

32 (c) All initial appointments to the task force shall be made not later than 90 days after the
33 effective date of this section. Any vacancy shall be filled by the appointing authority, as applicable.

34 (d) The chairperson shall be elected by members of the task force at the first meeting,
35 which meeting is to be called by the Governor. The first meeting shall be held not later than 120
36 days after the effective date of this section.

37 (e) Not later than July 1, 2024, the task force shall submit an electronic report on its
38 findings and recommendations to the Joint Committee on Government and Finance.

39 (f) The task force shall terminate on the date that it submits such report or July 1, 2024,
40 whichever is later.

The Clerk of the House of Delegates and the Clerk of the Senate hereby certify that the foregoing bill is correctly enrolled.

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Clerk of the House of Delegates

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Clerk of the Senate

Originated in the House of Delegates.

In effect ninety days from passage.

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Speaker of the House of Delegates

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President of the Senate

The within is this the.....
Day of, 2023.

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Governor