

ELECTRIC RESTRUCTURING STUDY

1999 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Sponsor: Lorin V. Jones

AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES; REPEALING OBSOLETE DUTIES OF ELECTRICAL DEREGULATION AND CUSTOMER CHOICE TASK FORCE; EXTENDING THE REPEAL DATE OF THE TASK FORCE; AND REPEALING RATE FREEZE ON INVESTOR-OWNED ELECTRICAL CORPORATIONS AND RELATED PROVISIONS.

This act affects sections of Utah Code Annotated 1953 as follows:

ENACTS:

54-7-12.5, Utah Code Annotated 1953

54-7-12.7, Utah Code Annotated 1953

63-55b-5401, Utah Code Annotated 1953

REPEALS:

54-7-12.3, as enacted by Chapter 176, Laws of Utah 1997

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:

Section 1. Section **54-7-12.5** is enacted to read:

54-7-12.5. Electric Deregulation and Customer Choice Task Force.

(1) (a) There is reauthorized the Electric Deregulation and Customer Choice Task Force created by Chapter 176, Laws of Utah 1997, consisting of the following members:

(i) five members of the Senate appointed by the president of the Senate, no more than three of whom may be from the same political party; and

(ii) seven members of the House of Representatives appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives, no more than five of whom may be from the same political party.

(b) (i) The president of the Senate shall designate a member of the Senate appointed under Subsection (1)(a)(i) as a cochair of the task force.

(ii) The speaker of the House of Representatives shall designate a member of the House of Representatives appointed under Subsection (1)(a)(ii) as a cochair of the task force.

(c) In conducting its business, the task force shall comply with the rules of legislative interim committees.

(d) (i) The task force shall meet at least twice each year, but may meet quarterly, if the chairs determine that the additional meetings are needed.

(ii) If the chairs determine that the task force should meet more than quarterly each year, the chairs of the task force may ask for approval of additional meetings from the Legislative Management Committee.

(e) Salaries and expenses of the members of the task force shall be paid in accordance with Section 36-2-2 and Legislative Joint Rule 15.03.

(f) The Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel shall provide staff support to the task force.

(2) The task force shall:

(a) study possible electrical restructuring in and its effects on Utah;

(b) remain informed about developments in electrical restructuring on the federal level and in other states; and

(c) monitor states that have implemented an electrical restructuring plan to learn from the experiences of those states.

(3) In addition to the assistance of the Public Service Commission under Section 54-7-12.7, the task force may request assistance from public and private resources as part of its study.

(4) The task force shall report at least annually to the Public Utilities and Technology Interim Committee.

Section 2. Section **54-7-12.7** is enacted to read:

54-7-12.7. Commission study of electrical restructuring -- Work with task force.

To assist the Electric Deregulation and Customer Choice Task Force in its study under Section 54-7-12.5, the Public Service Commission shall:

(1) study electrical restructuring, including developments on the federal level and in other states; and

(2) as directed by the Electric Deregulation and Customer Choice Task Force, work with that

task force including providing the task force with reports.

Section 3. Section **63-55b-5401** is enacted to read:

63-55b-5401. Repeal date.

Sections 54-7-12.5 and 54-7-12.7 are repealed November 30, 2000.

Section 4. **Repealer.**

This act repeals:

Section **54-7-12.3, Task force to consider stranded cost issues -- Interim rate freeze.**