

HOUSE BILL No. 2639

By Committee on Energy and Utilities

1-17

9 AN ACT establishing the energy resources commission; relating to pow-
10 ers and duties thereof.

11

12 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:*

13 Section 1. (a) There is hereby established the Kansas energy re-
14 sources commission. The commission shall be made up of the following
15 members:

16 (1) Two members appointed by the speaker of the house of
17 representatives;

18 (2) two members appointed by the president of the senate;

19 (3) one member appointed by the minority leader of the house of
20 representatives;

21 (4) one member appointed by the minority leader of the senate; and

22 (5) one member appointed by the governor.

23 All appointments shall be from persons recognized for their breadth of
24 knowledge on energy issues and initiatives. All appointments shall be
25 residents of Kansas. Except as provided in subsection (b), members shall
26 be appointed for a term of four years and until a successor is appointed
27 and qualifies. Nothing in this section shall be construed as prohibiting the
28 reappointment of members to the commission.

29 (b) The appointing authorities indicated in subsection (a) shall make
30 initial appointments on or before August 1, 2008. The terms of these
31 initial appointments shall be as follows, as designated by the appointing
32 authority:

33 (1) One appointment by the speaker of the house of representatives
34 shall expire on June 30, 2009, and the other appointment shall expire on
35 June 30, 2011;

36 (2) one appointment by the president of the senate shall expire on
37 June 30, 2009, and the other appointment shall expire on June 30, 2011;

38 (3) one appointment by the minority leader of the house of repre-
39 sentatives shall expire on June 30, 2010;

40 (4) one appointment by the minority leader of the senate shall expire
41 on June 30, 2010; and

42 (5) one appointment by the governor shall expire on June 30, 2012.

43 (c) The member appointed by the speaker of the house of represen-

1 tatives whose term expires June 30, 2011 shall call the first meeting. The
2 members of the commission shall choose their own chairperson, vice-
3 chairperson and secretary-treasurer for the commission, who shall serve
4 for terms of two years and are eligible for re-election.

5 (d) The commission is hereby granted such specific powers as are
6 necessary to carry out the functions enumerated in this section. The com-
7 mission shall submit annual reports of the activities and recommendations
8 of the commission to the governor and the legislature. A preliminary
9 report shall be submitted on or before September 1, 2009. The commis-
10 sion shall:

11 (1) Develop strategies to maximize productive use of the existing re-
12 sources in Kansas, including, but not limited to: water, coal, oil, natural
13 gas, coal-bed methane, wind, solar, municipal and other waste, agricul-
14 tural ground, bio-mass and such other energy resources as shall be iden-
15 tified by the commission members as having economic value to the state;

16 (2) identify means of sustaining and, if possible, increasing production
17 and use of identified resources;

18 (3) identify emerging technologies and technological opportunities to
19 sustain or increase production and make better use of existing and po-
20 tential resources, and recommend state investments in specific research
21 projects. Development of sustainable policies shall include conservation,
22 enhanced production technologies and other strategies;

23 (4) investigate and research scientifically derived literature on public
24 health impacts of greenhouse gases and particulates emitted from all nat-
25 ural and man-made sources and the technological ability to capture or
26 reduce such emissions. Recommend emission limits for primary man-
27 made emissions by type of emitting source. Such recommendations shall
28 be based on a consensus of the main-stream scientific community and
29 regulatory recommendations and shall note the cost-benefit ratio of lim-
30 iting or capturing such gases and particulates. Recommendations shall
31 recognize the technological feasibility of capturing or significantly reduc-
32 ing such emissions and the cost to consumers of the recommended
33 actions;

34 (5) recommend reallocations of existing state budget resources;

35 (6) recommend permanent funding sources for energy sustainability
36 research; and

37 (7) pursue such other issues as the council members may deem
38 necessary.

39 (e) The commission shall hold meetings at least once in each quarter,
40 and additional meetings as deemed necessary. Meetings shall be called
41 and held at the discretion of the chairperson, or upon written request of
42 a majority of the members of the commission. A majority of the members
43 of the commission shall constitute a quorum for the exercise of powers

1 conferred upon the commission. Members of the commission attending
2 meetings of such commission, or subcommittee meetings thereof as au-
3 thorized by the commission, shall be paid compensation, subsistence al-
4 lowances, mileage and other expenses as provided in K.S.A. 75-3223, and
5 amendments thereto.

6 (f) In the event of a vacancy in the membership of the commission
7 by reason of expiration of any member's term of office, a successor of like
8 qualifications shall be appointed in the manner and for the term of office
9 prescribed herein. In the event of a vacancy in the membership of the
10 commission, before the expiration of the member's term, a successor of
11 like qualifications shall be appointed by the appointing authority for the
12 remainder of the unexpired term.

13 (g) The commission may receive and expend moneys appropriated to
14 the commission and received from any other source, whether public or
15 private, to further the purposes of this act.

16 (h) The staff of the office of the revisor of statutes, the legislative
17 research department and the division of legislative administrative services
18 shall provide such assistance as may be requested by the energy resources
19 commission and authorized by the legislative coordinating council. The
20 Kansas corporation commission shall also provide such assistance as may
21 be requested.

22 Sec. 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its
23 publication in the statute book.