



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 310

February Session, 2026

Substitute Senate Bill No. 426

Senate, April 1, 2026

The Committee on Government Oversight reported through SEN. GADKAR-WILCOX of the 22nd Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING GOVERNMENT OVERSIGHT OF ENERGY REGULATION IN THE STATE.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) (a) Not later than October 1, 2026, the
2 Department of Administrative Services shall issue a request for
3 proposals to hire a national consultant with expertise in qualitative
4 research to conduct an impartial study and make findings as outlined in
5 subsection (d) of this section. The deadline for responding to the request
6 for proposals shall be not more than seventy-five days from the date of
7 issuance of the request for proposals.

8 (b) The department shall develop criteria for evaluating proposals
9 relating to conducting such study, including, but not limited to, (1) the
10 anticipated cost of completing such a study; (2) the anticipated timeline
11 for completing such a study; and (3) the experience of the entity
12 responding to the proposal relevant to conducting and completing such
13 a study.

14 (c) Not later than February 1, 2027, the department shall evaluate the
15 proposals submitted under subsection (b) of this section and select an
16 entity that submitted a proposal to conduct the study.

17 (d) The selected entity that conducts such study shall (1) examine the:
18 (A) Structure of the Department of Energy and Environmental
19 Protection and the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority and determine
20 if the legislative changes made in public act 11-80 creating the
21 Department of Energy and Environmental Protection accomplished the
22 General Assembly's intended objectives, as indicated by legislative
23 history and other records, and whether such legislative changes yielded
24 benefits for the state, such as progress on the state's energy goals; and
25 (B) structure of energy policy-making and utility regulation in other
26 states, including, but not limited to, states that have deregulated
27 utilities, and (2) make any recommendations for changes to the existing
28 structure to reflect best practices in other states.

29 (e) Not later than January 1, 2028, the Department of Administrative
30 Services shall submit the findings of such study and any
31 recommendations, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of
32 the general statutes, to the joint standing committees of the General
33 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to energy and
34 government oversight.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section

GOS *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 27 \$	FY 28 \$
Department of Administrative Services	GF - Cost	Up to 1,600,000	None

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill results in a one-time cost of up to \$1.6 million to the Department of Administrative Services to conduct a study related to energy regulation in the state. The study is required to analyze the effectiveness of the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority, energy policy and regulation, and make recommendations for changes to the existing structure to reflect best practices in other states.

The Out Years

None.



OLR Bill Analysis

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***AN ACT CONCERNING GOVERNMENT OVERSIGHT OF ENERGY
REGULATION IN THE STATE.***

SUMMARY

The Office of Legislative Research does not analyze Special Acts.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Government Oversight Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 12 Nay 0 (03/17/2026)