



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 426

February Session, 2026



**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.*