



# Senate

General Assembly

**File No. 384**

February Session, 2000

Substitute Senate Bill No. 501

*Senate, April 3, 2000*

The Committee on Government Administration and Elections reported through SEN. BOZEK of the 6<sup>th</sup> Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

## ***An Act Concerning The Membership And Mission Of The Connecticut Energy Advisory Board.***

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

1 Section 1. Section 16a-3 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof:

3 (a) There is established a Connecticut Energy Advisory Board  
4 consisting of [sixteen members, including] the following members:

5 (1) One appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives  
6 who shall be a representative of hardship cases, as defined in section  
7 16-262c;

8 (2) One appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate who  
9 has a background in consumer advocacy relating to energy  
10 consumption but who is not a public official or employee of a state  
11 agency or of a utility company;

12 (3) One appointed by the majority leader of the House of  
13 Representatives who shall be a member of the joint standing  
14 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters  
15 relating to energy;

16 (4) One appointed by the majority leader of the Senate who shall be  
17 a member of the joint standing committee of the General Assembly  
18 having cognizance of matters relating to energy;

19 (5) One appointed by the minority leader of the House of  
20 Representatives who has a background in public utility regulation but  
21 who is not a public official or employee of a state agency or of a utility  
22 company;

23 (6) One appointed by the minority leader of the Senate who shall be  
24 a representative of an environmental group;

25 (7) Two appointed by the Governor one of whom shall be a  
26 representative of the energy industry and one of whom shall be a  
27 representative of organized labor;

28 (8) [the] The Commissioner of Economic and Community  
29 Development, or the commissioner's designee;

30 (9) [the] The Commissioner of Environmental Protection, or the  
31 commissioner's designee;

32 (10) [the] The chairperson of the Connecticut Siting Council, or the  
33 chairperson's designee;

34 (11) [the] The chairperson of the Public Utilities Control Authority,  
35 or the chairperson's designee;

36 (12) [the] The Commissioner of Public Works, [and] or the  
37 commissioner's designee;

38 (13) [the] The Commissioner of Transportation, or [their respective

39 designees. The Governor shall appoint four members, the president  
40 pro tempore of the Senate shall appoint three members, and the  
41 speaker of the House shall appoint three members, all of whom shall  
42 serve in accordance with section 4-1a. At least one of the members  
43 appointed to said board by the Governor shall be a representative of  
44 organized labor] the commissioner's designee;

45 (14) The Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, or the  
46 secretary's designee;

47 (15) The Commissioner of Social Services, or the commissioner's  
48 designee;

49 (16) The Consumer Counsel, or the Consumer Counsel's designee;

50 (17) A member of the Consumer Education Advisory Council  
51 established pursuant to section 16-244d, chosen by said council;

52 (18) A member of the Connecticut Development Authority, chosen  
53 by said authority;

54 (19) A member of Connecticut Innovations, Incorporated, chosen by  
55 Connecticut Innovations, Incorporated;

56 (20) A member of the Energy Conservation Management Board,  
57 chosen by said board;

58 (21) The executive director of the Connecticut Housing Investment  
59 Fund or the director's designee; and

60 (22) The State Building Inspector, or the inspector's designee.

61 (b) The board shall [ (1) under section 16a-7, (A) recommend to the  
62 Governor and General Assembly programs for enhancing the state's  
63 energy management and carrying out the purposes of section 16a-35k  
64 and (B) recommend long-range energy supply and demand options  
65 with particular emphasis on conservation and energy resource

66 development within the state, (2) act as a mediator and coordinator for  
67 programs which will identify] (1) coordinate energy related programs  
68 throughout the state and recommend to the Governor, the joint  
69 standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of  
70 matters relating to energy and to state agencies, as appropriate,  
71 policies, programs and strategies to improve energy related efforts, (2)  
72 provide a forum for state agencies to raise and discuss in a  
73 comprehensive manner issues that address, among other things,  
74 energy use, energy demand, energy technology, energy supply, energy  
75 price and the environmental impacts of energy and synchronize their  
76 various efforts to form a cohesive energy strategy for the future, (3)  
77 identify opportunities for and concerns of the state in managing its  
78 future energy requirements, especially with regard to conservation  
79 and the use of renewable energy resources, [(3) respond to requests of  
80 the General Assembly to review or examine issues requiring  
81 consideration and policy formulation and (4)] and (4) examine the  
82 energy component of the state's economy as it affects citizens,  
83 government, commerce and industry.

84 (c) All appointments to the board shall be made no later than thirty  
85 days after the effective date of this act. Any vacancy shall be filled by  
86 the appointing authority. The board shall elect a chairman and a vice-  
87 chairman from among its members and shall adopt such rules of  
88 procedure as are necessary to carry out its functions. Each member of  
89 the board who holds no salaried state office shall be compensated for  
90 the performance of [his] the member's official duties at the rate of fifty  
91 dollars per day. The board shall meet on a monthly basis or more  
92 frequently as it deems appropriate.

93 (d) The board may (1) impose reasonable reporting requirements on  
94 other state agencies and private entities in the business of supplying  
95 energy and energy services to consumers to provide information to the  
96 board as the board deems necessary for it to carry out its planning and  
97 decision-making responsibilities; and (2) host forums bringing together

98 agencies and other appropriate parties to discuss energy issues.

99 [(d)] (e) The Connecticut Energy Advisory Board shall be within the  
100 Office of Policy and Management for administrative purposes only.

101 Sec. 2. This act shall take effect from its passage.

**ET Committee Vote:** Yea 16 Nay 0 JFS C/R GAE

**GAE Committee Vote:** Yea 21 Nay 0 JF

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either House thereof for any purpose:

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**OFA Fiscal Note**

**State Impact:** None

**Affected Agencies:** Office of Policy and Management, Various State Agencies

**Municipal Impact:** None

**Explanation**

**State Impact:**

The bill expands the membership of the Connecticut Energy Advisory Board to certain state agencies. It is anticipated that all agencies can serve on the board within their respective budgetary resources, thus there is no fiscal impact.

Pursuant to CGS 16a-3(c), board members who hold no salaried state office receive \$50 compensation per board meeting. To the extent the bill results in additional meetings or adds members to the board who are eligible for compensation for board meetings, a minimal, but absorbable cost may result, thus there is no fiscal impact.

**OLR Bill Analysis**

sSB 501

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE MEMBERSHIP AND MISSION OF THE CONNECTICUT ENERGY ADVISORY BOARD.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill expands the membership of the Connecticut Energy Advisory Board and changes its mission. It requires the board to meet monthly or more frequently as it considers appropriate. It allows the board to impose reasonable reporting requirements on state agencies and private entities in the energy business to give the board the information it considers necessary to carry out its planning and decision-making responsibilities. It also allows the board to host forums to bring agencies and other parties together to discuss energy issues.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

**BOARD MEMBERSHIP**

Under current law, the board consists of representatives of six agencies, four gubernatorial representatives, and three members each appointed by the Senate president pro tempore and the House speaker. The bill expands the board to include the heads of the following agencies and governmental entities:

1. the Office of Policy and Management;
2. the Department of Social Services;
3. the Office of Consumer Counsel;
4. the Office of the State Building Inspector; and
5. the Connecticut Housing Investment Fund (CHIF).

The bill allows these officials to appoint designees to serve on the board. It also expands the board to include appointees of the following entities: the Connecticut Development Authority;

Connecticut Innovations, Incorporated; the Consumer Education Advisory Council; and the Energy Conservation Management Board. The first two are quasi-public economic development agencies; the latter two have statutorily specified responsibilities in implementing the electric utility restructuring law.

The bill reduces the number of gubernatorial appointees from four to two, and requires that one represent the energy industry. It requires the other to represent organized labor; under current law at least one of the governor's appointees must do so.

The bill reduces the number of appointments by the Senate president pro tempore and the House speaker from three each to one each. Under the bill, the Senate president's appointee must have a background in consumer advocacy with regard to energy but cannot be a public official, state employee, or utility company employee. The speaker's appointee must represent hardship cases, i.e. people protected by law from utility shut-offs during the heating season.

The bill adds one member each appointed by the House and Senate majority and minority leaders. The majority leaders' appointees must be members of the Energy and Technology Committee. The House minority leader's appointee must have a background in public utility regulation, but cannot be a public official, state employee, or utility company employee. The Senate minority leader's appointee must represent an environmental group.

All appointments must be made within 30 days after the bill's effective date. Any vacancy must be filled by the appointing authority.

## **BOARD MISSION**

The bill requires the board to:

1. coordinate energy related programs throughout the state, and
2. provide a forum for state agencies regarding specified energy issues and synchronize their efforts to form a cohesive energy strategy.

The bill eliminates the requirements that the board:

1. recommend long-range supply and demand options, emphasizing conservation and resource development in the state, to the governor and the legislature; and
2. respond to legislative requests to review energy policy issues.

The bill requires the board to recommend policies, programs, and strategies to improve energy-related efforts to the governor, the Energy and Technology Committee, and appropriate state agencies. Under current law, the recommendations cover improvements in the state's energy management and implementation of state energy policy and they go to the governor and the legislature as a whole. The bill also requires the board to identify the state's opportunities for, and concerns regarding, the state's energy future rather than acting as a mediator and coordinator with regard to these issues.

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Energy and Technology Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute Change of Reference

Yea 16    Nay 0

Government Administration and Elections Committee

Joint Favorable Report

Yea 21    Nay 0