



# House of Representatives

General Assembly

**File No. 168**

January Session, 2021

Substitute House Bill No. 6525

*House of Representatives, March 29, 2021*

The Committee on Energy and Technology reported through REP. ARCONTI of the 109th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

## ***AN ACT ESTABLISHING A TASK FORCE TO STUDY ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION COMPANIES.***

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

- 1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established a task force  
2 to study (1) how the market serviced by each electric distribution  
3 company, as defined in section 16-1 of the general statutes, may be  
4 reconstituted to increase accountability to ratepayers and increase  
5 responsiveness to ratepayer needs, and (2) the introduction of  
6 competition in the electric transmission or distribution services industry  
7 in the state. Such study shall include, but need not be limited to, an  
8 evaluation concerning the costs of acquiring electric transmission or  
9 distribution services infrastructure from each electric distribution  
10 company and recommendations regarding whether acquisitions are  
11 necessary to maintain electric grid reliability in the state.
- 12 (b) The task force shall consist of the following members:

13 (1) One appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives,  
14 who shall be a representative from a retail electric supplier;

15 (2) One appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate, who  
16 shall be a ratepayer from the Eversource Energy service area;

17 (3) One appointed by the majority leader of the House of  
18 Representatives, who shall be a ratepayer from the United Illuminating  
19 Company service area;

20 (4) One appointed by the majority leader of the Senate, who shall be  
21 a representative from a municipal electric company;

22 (5) One appointed by the minority leader of the House of  
23 Representatives, who shall have expertise in the electric transmission or  
24 distribution services industry;

25 (6) One appointed by the minority leader of the Senate, who shall be  
26 a representative from a ratepayer advocacy group;

27 (7) The chairpersons and ranking members of the joint standing  
28 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters  
29 relating to energy, or their designees;

30 (8) One representative from the regional independent system  
31 operator, as defined in section 16-1 of the general statutes;

32 (9) One representative from the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority;  
33 and

34 (10) One representative from the Office of Consumer Counsel.

35 (c) All initial appointments to the task force shall be made not later  
36 than thirty days after the effective date of this section. Any vacancy shall  
37 be filled by the appointing authority.

38 (d) The chairperson of the task force shall be selected by the members  
39 of the task force. Such chairperson shall schedule the first meeting of the  
40 task force, which shall be held not later than sixty days after the effective

41 date of this section.

42 (e) The administrative staff of the joint standing committee of the  
43 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to energy shall  
44 serve as administrative staff of the task force.

45 (f) Not later than January 15, 2022, the task force shall submit a report  
46 on its findings and recommendations to the joint standing committee of  
47 the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to energy,  
48 in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes.  
49 The task force shall terminate on the date that it submits such report or  
50 January 15, 2022, whichever is later.

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

**ET**            *Joint Favorable Subst.*

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*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.*

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### **OFA Fiscal Note**

**State Impact:** None

**Municipal Impact:** None

### **Explanation**

The bill establishes a thirteen-member task force to study how the market serviced by each electric distribution company may be reconstituted to increase accountability to ratepayers while increasing responsiveness to ratepayer needs. The task force shall study the introduction of competition in the electric transmission or distribution services industry in the state.

Not later than January 15, 2022, the task force shall submit a report on its findings and recommendations to the Energy Committee. The task force shall terminate on the date that it submits such report or January 15, 2022, whichever is later.

This bill has no fiscal impact as PA 17-236 prohibits transportation allowances for task force members.

### **The Out Years**

**State Impact:** None

**Municipal Impact:** None



**OLR Bill Analysis**

**sHB 6525**

***AN ACT ESTABLISHING A TASK FORCE TO STUDY ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION COMPANIES.***

**SUMMARY**

The Office of Legislative Research does not analyze Special Acts.

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Energy and Technology Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 26 Nay 0 (03/11/2021)