GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA SESSION 2025

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SENATE BILL DRS15270-NJa-39A

Short Title: (Public) Fair Competition Study Act. Senators Meyer and Murdock (Primary Sponsors). Sponsors: Referred to: A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT TO CONDUCT A STUDY FOR IMPROVEMENTS AND REFORM FOR FAIR COMPETITION IN NORTH CAROLINA'S ENERGY MARKET. Whereas, much of the electric service provided in North Carolina is currently provided by vertically integrated providers of electric distribution and transmission services; and Whereas, the State has adopted legislation, including Session Law 2007-397 and Session Law 2017-192, to diversify the resources used to reliably meet the energy needs of consumers and provide economic benefits to the State; and Whereas, the State has committed to reducing electric power sector greenhouse gas emissions by seventy percent (70%) below 2005 levels by 2030 and attaining carbon neutrality by 2050. Whereas, electricity sector regulatory framework changes to the wholesale electricity market may require changes to State law as well as federal authorization; and Whereas, the South Carolina legislature authorized a study to be completed on November 18, 2021, to examine the benefits of various restructuring options for electricity markets associated with electricity generators, transmitters, and distributors in South Carolina; Whereas, regional and interstate arrangements may require changes to laws in states other than North Carolina; Now, therefore, The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts: **SECTION 1.** The North Carolina Public Utilities Commission shall conduct a study that accomplishes all the following: Assesses the costs and benefits of the current energy market in North Carolina. (1) Assesses possible reforms to be made to the Southeastern Energy Exchange (2) Market. Evaluates the feasibility, costs, and benefits of an energy imbalance market or (3) regional transmission organization in North Carolina and South Carolina or the Southeastern United States.

SECTION 2. For the purposes of this act, the following definitions apply:

geographical grid such as a regional transmission organization.

(1) Consultant. – An independent, qualified individual or entity retained by the legislature to conduct objective, evidence-based research and analysis related to utility regulation, cost recovery practices, and ratepayer impacts in North Carolina. The consultant must have demonstrated expertise in energy policy,

Determines the necessary legal and procedural requirements for establishing an energy imbalance market in North Carolina and South Carolina or a larger

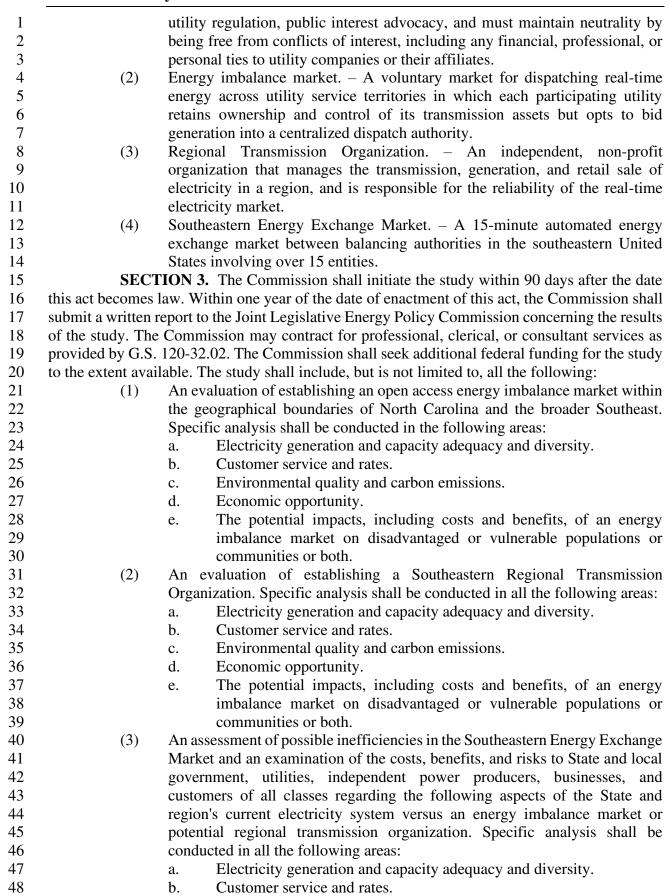


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Environmental quality and carbon emissions.

Economic opportunity.

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