

SENATE BILL No. 692

By Committee on Ways and Means

3-18

9 AN ACT establishing the joint committee on energy and environmental
10 policy.

11

12 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:*

13 Section 1. (a) There is hereby established a joint committee on en-
14 ergy and environmental policy which shall consist of six members of the
15 house of representatives and five members of the senate. The house of
16 representatives members shall be appointed by the speaker of the house
17 and the minority leader. The senate members shall be appointed by the
18 president and the minority leader. The two major political parties shall
19 have proportional representation on such committee. In the event appli-
20 cation of the preceding sentence results in a fraction, the party having a
21 fraction exceeding .5 shall receive representation as though such fraction
22 were a whole number. The speaker of the house of representatives shall
23 designate a representative member to be chairperson or vice-chairperson
24 of the joint committee as provided by this section. The president of the
25 senate shall designate a senate member to be chairperson or vice-chair-
26 person of the joint committee as provided by this section.

27 (b) Any vacancy in the membership of the joint committee on energy
28 and environmental policy shall be filled by appointment in the manner
29 prescribed by this section for the original appointment.

30 (c) All members of the joint committee on energy and environmental
31 policy shall serve for terms of two years ending on the first day of the
32 regular session of the legislature commencing in the first odd year after
33 appointment, except that the initial members appointed on July 1, 2008,
34 shall serve for terms ending on the first day of the regular session of the
35 legislature commencing on January 1, 2009. For the initial term of mem-
36 bers appointed on July 1, 2008, the chairperson of the joint committee
37 shall be a senate member designated by the president of the senate. In
38 the biennium commencing with the convening of the regular session of
39 the legislature in 2009, and each two years thereafter, the chairperson of
40 the joint committee shall be a senate member designated by the president
41 of the senate. In the biennium commencing with the convening of the
42 regular session of the legislature in 2011, and each two years thereafter,
43 the chairperson of the joint committee shall be a representative member

- 1 designated by the speaker of the house of representatives. If a vacancy
2 occurs in the office of the chairperson, a member of the joint committee
3 who is a member of the same house of the legislature as the member who
4 vacated the office shall be appointed by the speaker of the house or
5 president of the senate, depending on the house membership of the va-
6 cating member, to fill such vacancy.
- 7 (d) A quorum of the joint committee on energy and environmental
8 policy shall be six. All actions of the joint committee shall be taken by a
9 majority of all of the members of the joint committee.
- 10 (e) The joint committee on energy and environmental policy shall
11 have the authority to meet at any time and at any place within the state
12 on the call of the chairperson.
- 13 (f) The provisions of the acts contained in article 12 of chapter 46 of
14 the Kansas Statutes Annotated, and amendments thereto, applicable to
15 special committees shall apply to the joint committee on energy and en-
16 vironmental policy to the extent that the same do not conflict with the
17 specific provisions of this act applicable to the joint committee.
- 18 (g) Members of the joint committee on energy and environmental
19 policy shall receive compensation, travel expenses and subsistence ex-
20 penses as provided in K.S.A. 75-3212, and amendments thereto, when
21 attending meetings of the committee.
- 22 (h) The staff of the office of revisor of statutes, the legislative research
23 department and other central legislative staff service agencies shall pro-
24 vide such assistance as may be requested by the joint committee.
- 25 (i) The joint committee on energy and environmental policy may in-
26 troduce such legislation as it deems necessary in performing its functions.
- 27 (j) The joint committee on energy and environmental policy shall sub-
28 mit a report to the legislature and to the standing committees of the house
29 of representatives and the senate which are assigned utility, energy, en-
30 vironment and natural resources issues before December 31 each year
31 with any findings and recommendations concerning energy and environ-
32 mental policy which such joint committee deems necessary.
- 33 Sec. 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its
34 publication in the statute book.