



# State of Tennessee

## PUBLIC CHAPTER NO. 913

HOUSE BILL NO. 2313

By Representatives Ragan, Rogers, Powers, Butt, Calfee, Keisling, Hardaway

Substituted for: Senate Bill No. 2473

By Senator Norris

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4; Title 11; Title 49; Title 60; Title 64; Title 65 and Title 68, relative to a statewide comprehensive energy plan.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 9, Part 14, is amended by adding the following language as a new, appropriately designated section:

(a) The Howard H. Baker Jr. Center for Public Policy at the University of Tennessee is directed to perform a study on the economic feasibility of creating and utilizing a statewide comprehensive energy policy. The study shall examine the state's current and future energy supply and demand needs, existing energy policies, and emerging energy challenges and opportunities. The objectives of the study shall include, but not be limited to the following:

- (1) Increasing the exploration and use of in-state or domestic energy resources;
- (2) Promoting job growth, energy production, energy use, and energy conservation in the state;
- (3) Ensuring reliable, low-cost environmentally responsible energy supply;
- (4) Gaining competitive advantages for Tennessee businesses and consumers in light of rising energy costs; and
- (5) Positioning the state as a leader in the United States and world energy markets.

(b) The study shall focus on incentives and policies that the state may utilize to promote and enhance the most cost efficient and effective statewide comprehensive energy policy. The study shall include legislative and executive policy recommendations.

(c) All appropriate state departments and agencies are encouraged to provide assistance for the study.

(d) State funds in the amount of forty thousand dollars (\$40,000) shall be made available to support the feasibility study. The Howard H. Baker Jr. Center for Public Policy is authorized to establish public and private partnerships for the study. Any funds made available from private, county, municipal or federal appropriations shall be used to match state appropriations.

(e) The Howard H. Baker Jr. Center for Public Policy shall report its preliminary findings to the energy task force of the house of representatives no later than October 15, 2014. A final report shall be provided to the energy task force no later than December 15, 2014.

(f) The Sparks Bureau of Business and Economic Research (SBBER) at the University of Memphis shall work in partnership with the Howard H. Baker Jr. Center for

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Public Policy at the University of Tennessee in the creation of the statewide comprehensive energy policy pursuant to subsection (a).

SECTION 2. The provisions of this act shall not be construed to be an appropriation of funds and no funds shall be obligated or expended pursuant to this act unless such funds are specifically appropriated by the general appropriations act.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.

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PASSED: April 17, 2014

  
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BETH HARWELL, SPEAKER  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

  
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RON RAMSEY  
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

APPROVED this 13<sup>th</sup> day of May 2014

  
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BILL HASLAM, GOVERNOR