

2009 SESSION

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 682

Offered January 14, 2009

Prefiled January 13, 2009

Requesting the Department of Taxation to study the redesign of the residential electric consumption tax to promote energy efficiency. Report.

Patron—Vanderhye

Referred to Committee on Rules

WHEREAS, in 2007, the General Assembly identified energy efficiency as a public policy priority in passing reregulation legislation for electric utilities; and

WHEREAS, the current structure of the residential electric consumption tax imposes a lower rate as the customer uses more energy; and

WHEREAS, reversing this structure to impose a higher rate as the residential customer uses more energy has the potential to promote energy efficiency and conservation; and

WHEREAS, any such proposed change should be designed to be revenue neutral; and

WHEREAS, the electric consumption tax was revised substantially in 2004; and

WHEREAS, this is an opportune time to examine the implementation of the current structure of the tax with an eye towards energy efficiency; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the Department of Taxation be requested to examine implementation of the residential electric consumption tax and options for restructuring the tax to promote energy efficiency while remaining revenue neutral, as well as any other issues as may seem appropriate.

The Department of Taxation shall complete its study by November 30, 2009, and the Department shall submit to the Division of Legislative Automated Systems an executive summary of its findings and recommendations no later than the first day of the 2010 Regular Session of the General Assembly. The executive summary shall state whether the Department intends to submit to the General Assembly and the Governor a report of its findings and recommendations for publication as a House or Senate document. The executive summary and report shall be submitted as provided in the procedures of the Division of Legislative Automated Systems for the processing of legislative documents and reports and shall be posted on the General Assembly's website.

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