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(Original Signature of Member)

119TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

**H. R.**

To require the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to establish regional joint boards to study electric load forecasting, and for other purposes.

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

M. \_\_\_\_\_ introduced the following bill; which was referred to the  
Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

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**A BILL**

To require the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to establish regional joint boards to study electric load forecasting, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Load Forecasting En-  
5 hancement Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. REGIONAL JOINT BOARDS TO STUDY ELECTRIC**  
7 **LOAD FORECASTING.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—

1           (1) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 90 days  
2           after the date of enactment of this Act, the Federal  
3           Energy Regulatory Commission shall establish—

4                   (A) regions determined appropriate by the  
5           Commission for purposes of studying electric  
6           load forecasting; and

7                   (B) a joint board for each such region.

8           (2) REGIONS.—In carrying out paragraph (1),  
9           the Commission shall ensure that each State is in-  
10          cluded in a region established under such paragraph.

11          (b) MEMBERSHIP.—Each joint board established  
12          under this section shall be composed of—

13                   (1) 1 representative from each State commis-  
14          sion in the region for which the joint board is estab-  
15          lished; and

16                   (2) 1 member of the Commission, who shall  
17          serve as chair of the joint board.

18          (c) DUTIES.—Each joint board established under this  
19          section shall—

20                   (1) study issues relevant to identifying best  
21          practices for electric load forecasting that enhance  
22          the reliability and affordability of electric service to  
23          customers in the region for which the joint board is  
24          established, including, with respect to the region for  
25          which the joint board is established—

1 (A) the effects of electric load forecasting  
2 on the affordability of electric service;

3 (B) the reliability and resilience of electric  
4 service;

5 (C) the methods used for collecting and  
6 modeling data relating to electric load fore-  
7 casting;

8 (D) the transparency of the data and  
9 methodologies used to forecast electric loads  
10 and the accuracy of such forecasts;

11 (E) stakeholder engagement relating to  
12 electric load forecasting;

13 (F) economic development projections that  
14 may affect the electric load;

15 (G) the best available technologies, meth-  
16 odologies, and procedures for forecasting elec-  
17 tric loads; and

18 (H) an evaluation of requests for electric  
19 service by industrial or commercial facilities  
20 with large loads, including whether such facili-  
21 ties have made financial commitments to an  
22 electric utility;

23 (2) identify such best practices; and

24 (3) report on such best practices to the Com-  
25 mission.

1 (d) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 1 year  
2 after the date of enactment of this Act, the Commission  
3 shall publish and submit to Congress a report that in-  
4 cludes—

5 (1) the best practices reported under subsection  
6 (c); and

7 (2) recommendations for the consistent use  
8 across States of any such best practices by electric  
9 utilities.

10 (e) TERMINATION.—Each joint board established  
11 under this section shall terminate on the day after the date  
12 on which the Commission submits the report under sub-  
13 section (d).

14 (f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section, the terms “elec-  
15 tric utility”, “State”, and “State commission” have the  
16 meanings given such terms, respectively, in section 3 of  
17 the Federal Power Act (16 U.S.C. 796).

18 **SEC. 3. PURPA STANDARD ON ELECTRIC LOAD FORE-**  
19 **CASTING.**

20 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 111 of the Public Utility  
21 Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2621) is  
22 amended—

23 (1) in subsection (d), by adding at the end the  
24 following:

1           “(22) ELECTRIC LOAD FORECASTING.—The  
2           procedures used to forecast electric loads shall incor-  
3           porate the recommendations published in the report  
4           of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission pur-  
5           suant to the Load Forecasting Enhancement Act.”;  
6           and

7           (2) by adding at the end the following:

8           “(e) CONSIDERATION AND DETERMINATION BY NON-  
9           REGULATED ELECTRIC UTILITIES.—The requirement for  
10          consideration and determination referred to in the first  
11          sentence of subsection (a) shall not apply to a nonregu-  
12          lated electric utility with respect to the standard estab-  
13          lished by paragraph (22) of subsection (d).”.

14          (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

15                 (1) OBLIGATIONS TO CONSIDER AND DETER-  
16                 MINE.—Section 112 of the Public Utility Regulatory  
17                 Policies Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2622) is amended—

18                         (A) in subsection (b), by adding at the end  
19                         the following:

20                                 “(9)(A) Not later than 1 year after the date of  
21                                 enactment of this paragraph, each State regulatory  
22                                 authority (with respect to each electric utility for  
23                                 which the State has ratemaking authority) shall  
24                                 commence consideration under section 111, or set a  
25                                 hearing date for consideration, with respect to the

1 standard established by paragraph (22) of section  
2 111(d).

3 “(B) Not later than 2 years after the date of  
4 enactment of this paragraph, each State regulatory  
5 authority (with respect to each electric utility for  
6 which the State has ratemaking authority) shall  
7 complete the consideration and make the determina-  
8 tion under section 111 with respect to the standard  
9 established by paragraph (22) of section 111(d).”;

10 (B) in subsection (c)—

11 (i) by striking “subsection (b)(2)” and  
12 inserting “subsection (b)”; and

13 (ii) by inserting “In the case of the  
14 standard established by paragraph (22) of  
15 section 111(d), the reference contained in  
16 this subsection to the date of enactment of  
17 this Act shall be deemed to be a reference  
18 to the date of enactment of that paragraph  
19 (22).” after “paragraph (21).”; and

20 (C) by adding at the end the following:

21 “(i) OTHER PRIOR STATE ACTIONS.—Subsections  
22 (b) and (c) shall not apply to the standard established by  
23 paragraph (22) of section 111(d) in the case of any elec-  
24 tric utility in a State if, before the date of enactment of  
25 this subsection—

1           “(1) the State has implemented for the electric  
2 utility the standard (or a comparable standard);

3           “(2) the State regulatory authority for the  
4 State has conducted a proceeding to consider imple-  
5 mentation of the standard (or a comparable stand-  
6 ard) for the electric utility; or

7           “(3) the State legislature has voted on the im-  
8 plementation of the standard (or a comparable  
9 standard) for the electric utility during the 3-year  
10 period ending on that date of enactment.”.

11           (2) PRIOR AND PENDING PROCEEDINGS.—Sec-  
12 tion 124 of the Public Utility Regulatory Policies  
13 Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2634) is amended by insert-  
14 ing “In the case of the standard established by para-  
15 graph (22) of section 111(d), the reference con-  
16 tained in this section to the date of enactment of  
17 this Act shall be deemed to be a reference to the  
18 date of enactment of paragraph (22).” after “para-  
19 graph (21).”.

20 **SEC. 4. STATE ENERGY CONSERVATION PLANS.**

21           Section 362(c) of the Energy Policy and Conservation  
22 Act (42 U.S.C. 6322(c)) is amended—

23           (1) in paragraph (6), by striking “and” at the  
24 end;

1           (2) in paragraph (7), by striking the period at  
2           the end and inserting “; and”; and

3           (3) by adding at the end the following:

4           “(8) procedures and programs to improve the  
5           accuracy, oversight, and transparency to stake-  
6           holders of the forecasting of electric loads by electric  
7           utilities (as such term is defined in section 3 of the  
8           Federal Power Act (16 U.S.C. 796)).”.