

SB 123 - AS AMENDED BY THE SENATE

02/09/2017 0280s

02/09/2017 0390s

2017 SESSION

17-0910

08/10

SENATE BILL **123**

AN ACT establishing a commission to study a carbon reduction investment program for New Hampshire.

SPONSORS: Sen. Fuller Clark, Dist 21; Sen. Watters, Dist 4; Rep. Shepardson, Ches. 10; Rep. Backus, Hills. 19; Rep. Lovejoy, Rock. 36; Rep. Oxenham, Sull. 1

COMMITTEE: Energy and Natural Resources

ANALYSIS

This bill establishes a commission to study a carbon reduction investment program for New Hampshire.

Explanation: Matter added to current law appears in ***bold italics***.
Matter removed from current law appears ~~[in brackets and struck through.]~~
Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Seventeen

AN ACT establishing a commission to study a carbon reduction investment program for New Hampshire.

Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:

1 1 New Subdivision; Carbon Reduction Investment Program Study Commission. Amend RSA
2 125-O by inserting after section 29 the following new subdivision:

3 Carbon Reduction Investment Program Study Commission

4 125-O:30 Carbon Reduction Investment Program Study Commission.

5 I. There is established a commission to study a carbon reduction investment program for
6 New Hampshire.

7 II. The members of the commission shall be as follows:

8 (a) Two members of the senate, one appointed by the president of the senate and one
9 appointed by the minority leader, both members of the senate energy committee.

10 (b) Two members of the house of representatives, one appointed by the speaker of the
11 house of representatives and one appointed by the minority leader, both members of the science,
12 technology and energy committee.

13 (c) Three representatives of the environmental community, one appointed by the
14 speaker of the house of representatives, one appointed by the president of the senate, and one
15 appointed by the governor.

16 (d) Three representatives of the business community, one appointed by the speaker of
17 the house of representatives, one appointed by the president of the senate, and one appointed by the
18 governor.

19 (e) Three members of the general public, at least one of whom shall represent low
20 income ratepayers, appointed by the governor.

21 III. Legislative members of the commission shall receive mileage at the legislative rate
22 when attending to the duties of the commission.

23 IV. The commission shall study:

24 (a) The economic impact of a carbon reduction charge.

25 (b) At what level the charge ought to be levied.

26 (c) How such a charge could be used to reduce current business taxes in the state.

27 (d) How and to what degree would this charge be returned to businesses and
28 individuals in the state.

29 V.(a) The commission may solicit input from all relevant entities including state agencies,

1 appropriate businesses and information from surrounding states which have pursued similar
2 programs through levying a carbon reduction charge.

3 (b) The commission may solicit funds and commission studies and analyses for the
4 purposes of studying the objectives in paragraph IV.

5 VI. The members of the study commission shall elect a chairperson from among the
6 members. The first meeting of the commission shall be called by the first-named senate member.
7 The first meeting of the commission shall be held within 45 days of the effective date of this section.
8 Seven members of the commission shall constitute a quorum.

9 VII. On or before November 1, 2017, the commission shall submit an interim report of its
10 findings and any recommendations for proposed legislation to the president of the senate, the
11 speaker of the house of representatives, the senate clerk, the house clerk, the governor, and the
12 state library. The commission shall provide a final report of its findings and recommendations on or
13 before November 1, 2018.

14 2 Repeal. RSA 125-O:30, relative to the commission to study a carbon reduction investment
15 program for New Hampshire, is repealed.

16 3 Effective Date.

17 I. Section 2 of this act shall take effect November 1, 2018.

18 II. The remainder of this act shall take effect upon its passage.