Florida Senate - 2005

By the Committees on Governmental Oversight and Productivity; Communications and Public Utilities; and Senators Klein and Constantine

585-2178-05 1 A bill to be entitled 2 An act relating to electric utility transmission; creating the Electric Utility 3 4 Task Force; providing duties and membership of 5 the task force; creating the Electric Utility б Task Force Advisory Panel to advise the task 7 force; providing for membership and duties of 8 the panel; requiring that the task force submit 9 a report to the Governor and the Legislature; providing that the task force be dissolved on a 10 specified date; providing an appropriation; 11 12 providing an effective date. 13 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida: 14 15 Section 1. Electric Utility Task Force .--16 17 (1) The Electric Utility Task Force is established for 18 the purpose of evaluating the current electric utility transmission system and potential improvements to the system 19 to decrease damage from storms or improve recovery of the 20 21 system after storm damage, and to develop recommendations for 22 improving the emergency response to storm damage. 23 (2)(a) The task force shall consist of nine members. The President of the Senate shall appoint three members, all 2.4 of whom shall be members of the Senate, one of whom shall be a 25 26 member of the minority party. The Speaker of the House of 27 Representatives shall appoint three members, all of whom shall 2.8 be members of the House, one of whom shall be a member of the minority party. The Governor shall appoint three members. The 29 members of the task force shall designate one of its members 30 31 as chairperson.

1

CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

1	(b) Each member appointed to the task force shall
2	serve at the pleasure of the appointing official. Any vacancy
3	<u>on the task force shall be filled in the same manner as the</u>
4	original appointment.
5	(c) The task force shall be staffed by the Public
6	Service Commission, the Department of Community Affairs, the
7	Department of Management Services, and the Department of
8	Health. Meetings of the task force are subject to sections
9	119.07 and 286.011, Florida Statutes. The chairperson may
10	designate one of the agencies providing staff to perform
11	administrative responsibilities for the task force. The task
12	force may invite technical experts to appear at meetings and
13	provide information.
14	(d) Task force members shall serve without
15	compensation but are entitled to reimbursement for expenses
16	incurred in carrying out their duties as provided in section
17	112.061, Florida Statutes. Members who are public officers or
18	employees shall be reimbursed through the budget entity
19	through which they are compensated. Persons invited to appear
20	and speak at task force meetings are also entitled to receive
21	per diem and travel expenses.
22	(3)(a) To aid the task force, there is created the
23	Electric Utility Task Force Advisory Panel to provide
24	analysis, advice, and recommendations to the task force
25	regarding the existing electric utility transmission systems
26	and possible changes to the systems and to other affected
27	systems, such as telecommunications and cable systems.
28	(b) The advisory panel shall consist of six members.
29	The President of the Senate shall appoint two members, the
30	Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint two
31	members, and the Governor shall appoint two members. One

CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words <u>underlined</u> are additions.

1	member shall be from an electrical power utility company, one
2	member shall be from a telecommunications company, and one
3	member shall be from a cable system company. The remaining
4	members may include representatives from power utility
5	companies, electrical contractors, telecommunications
6	companies, telecommunications systems installers, scientists
7	who specialize in the transmission of power, engineers, and
8	others. Members shall serve at the pleasure of the appointing
9	official, without compensation, and shall be appointed to
10	terms that do not exceed 4 years. Any vacancy on the advisory
11	panel shall be filled in the same manner as the original
12	appointment.
13	(4) The task force shall:
14	(a) Evaluate and analyze the current electric utility
15	transmission and distribution systems, and the current
16	telecommunications and cable systems to the extent that they
17	use the same poles or other facilities as the electric
18	systems.
19	(b) Determine available alternatives to these systems
20	and the feasibility, costs, and reliability of these
21	alternatives, including consideration of storm conditions.
22	(c) Compare the current systems with available,
23	feasible alternatives and determine the costs and benefits of
24	the current systems and the alternatives, including
25	consideration of the costs, both direct and indirect, of
26	continuing the maintenance, upgrading, and protection of the
27	current systems. Cost comparisons should include the
28	possibility of a phase-in of improvements, including
29	coordinating improvements with other utility or infrastructure
30	<u>maintenance or installation.</u>
31	

3

CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words <u>underlined</u> are additions.

1	(d) Evaluate the problems caused by storm damages and
2	problems with emergency response and restoration of electric,
3	telecommunications, and cable systems.
4	(e) Identify facilities that provide critical services
5	and that are required by statute or rule to provide for
6	emergency electric power; evaluate the current electrical
7	needs of those facilities; and recommend quidelines that
8	onsite emergency systems should meet and sustain during
9	post-hurricane recovery.
10	(f) Evaluate the needs of persons with health-related
11	electric needs in their homes and what can be done to provide
12	for these needs in a storm situation.
13	(5) The task force shall present a report of its
14	findings and recommendations to the Governor, the President of
15	the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives on
16	March 1, 2006. The task force is dissolved on June 1, 2006.
17	Section 2. There is appropriated \$75,000 from the
18	General Revenue Fund to the Department of Community Affairs
19	for the 2005-2006 fiscal year to be used to pay for the
20	expenses of the task force.
21	Section 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a
22	law.
23	
24	STATEMENT OF SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES CONTAINED IN COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
25	<u>CS/SB 526</u>
26	
27	The CS for CS for SB 526 incorporates the separate traveling
28	amendments that create an electric utility advisory panel and revise duties of the panel relative to the identification of critical services.
29	CITCICAL SELVICES.
30	
31	
	4

CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words <u>underlined</u> are additions.