

By: Ortiz, Jr.

H.B. No. 1652

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to use of money from the Texas Enterprise Fund or the Texas emerging technology fund to promote alternative energy sources and energy efficiency technologies.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Section 481.078, Government Code, is amended by adding Subsections (k) and (l) to read as follows:

(k) At least 20 percent of the total amount of grants made from the fund must be to fund the establishment and expansion of enterprises in this state that have as their primary purpose:

(1) the provision of energy derived from alternative energy sources; or

(2) the conservation of energy resources through energy efficiency technology.

(l) For purposes of Subsection (k):

(1) "Alternative energy source" means an energy source, including solar energy, biomass energy, geothermal energy, and wind energy, that does not depend on nuclear fuel or nonrenewable fossil fuel.

(2) "Energy efficiency technology" means technology that is aimed at reducing the rate at which electric energy is used by equipment or processes and may be achieved by:

(A) substituting more advanced equipment to produce the same level of end-use services with less electricity;

1           (B) adopting technology and processes that  
2 reduce heat or other energy losses; or

3           (C) reorganizing processes to make use of waste  
4 heat.

5           SECTION 2. Section 490.151, Government Code, is amended by  
6 amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsections (c) and (d) to read  
7 as follows:

8           (a) Subject to Subsection (c), amounts ~~[Amounts]~~ allocated  
9 from the fund for use as provided by this subchapter shall be  
10 reserved for incentives for private or nonprofit entities to  
11 collaborate with public or private institutions of higher education  
12 in this state on emerging technology projects with a demonstrable  
13 economic benefit to this state.

14           (c) The governor, lieutenant governor, and speaker of the  
15 house of representatives shall ensure that at least 30 percent of  
16 the amounts allocated from the fund for use as provided by this  
17 subchapter shall be used for initiatives that promote alternative  
18 energy sources or energy efficiency technologies.

19           (d) In this section:

20                   (1) "Alternative energy source" means an energy  
21 source, including solar energy, biomass energy, geothermal energy,  
22 and wind energy, that does not depend on nuclear fuel or  
23 nonrenewable fossil fuel.

24                   (2) "Energy efficiency technology" means technology  
25 that is aimed at reducing the rate at which electric energy is used  
26 by equipment or processes and may be achieved by:

27                           (A) substituting more advanced equipment to

1 produce the same level of end-use services with less electricity;  
2 (B) adopting technology and processes that  
3 reduce heat or other energy losses; or  
4 (C) reorganizing processes to make use of waste  
5 heat.

6 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
7 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
8 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
9 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
10 Act takes effect September 1, 2009.