

**SENATE SUBSTITUTE FOR
HOUSE BILL NO. 5181**

A bill to create a commission to investigate alternative fuels; to define certain alternative fuels; to determine certain powers and duties of the commission; and to repeal acts and parts of acts.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Sec. 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the
2 "renewable fuels commission act".

3 Sec. 2. As used in this act:

4 (a) "Alternative fuel" means a fuel composed of biomass or
5 another fuel that does not have petroleum as a base or a blend of a
6 nonpetroleum-based fuel and a petroleum-based fuel. Alternative
7 fuel may include, but is not limited to, biodiesel and ethanol.

8 (b) "Biodiesel" means a fuel composed of mono-alkyl esters of
9 long chain fatty acids derived from vegetable oils or animal fats

1 and, in accordance with standards specified by the American society
2 for testing and materials, designated B100, and meeting the
3 requirements of D-6751, as approved by the department.

4 (c) "Biomass fuel" means a fuel made from plant material,
5 vegetation, or agricultural waste.

6 (d) "Ethanol" means a substance that meets the American
7 society for testing and materials standard in effect on the
8 effective date of this act as the D-4806 specification for
9 denatured fuel grade ethanol for blending with gasoline.

10 Sec. 3. (1) The renewable fuels commission is established
11 within the department of agriculture. The commission shall
12 investigate and recommend strategies that the governor and the
13 legislature may implement to promote the use of alternative fuels
14 and encourage the use of vehicles that utilize alternative fuels.
15 The commission shall also identify mechanisms that promote research
16 into alternative fuels.

17 (2) The commission shall identify mechanisms that promote
18 effective communication and coordination of efforts between this
19 state and local governments, private industry, and institutes of
20 higher education concerning the investigation, research into, and
21 promotion of alternative fuels.

22 (3) The commission may also review any state regulation that
23 may hinder the use, research, and development of alternative fuels
24 and vehicles that are able to utilize them and recommend changes to
25 the governor.

26 Sec. 4. The commission shall consist of the following members,
27 appointed by the governor within 90 days of the effective of this

1 act:

2 (a) The director of the department of agriculture or his or
3 her designee. The director of the department of agriculture shall
4 be the chair of the commission.

5 (b) One member representing the Michigan economic development
6 corporation.

7 (c) One member representing the department of labor and
8 economic growth.

9 (d) At least 1 member from the largest organization in this
10 state that represents corn producers exclusively.

11 (e) At least 1 member from the largest organization in this
12 state that represents soybean producers exclusively.

13 (f) One representative of automotive fuel blenders in this
14 state.

15 (g) One representative of retail petroleum sellers in this
16 state.

17 (h) One representative of petroleum suppliers in this state.

18 (i) One representative of biodiesel producers.

19 (j) One representative of ethanol producers.

20 (k) One representative of environmental organizations.

21 (l) Three representatives of the automotive manufacturing
22 industry.

23 (m) Three representatives of colleges and universities in this
24 state that are engaged in alternative fuel research.

25 (n) Any other member that the governor concludes is necessary
26 to further the commission's purposes.

27 Sec. 5. No later than 1 year after the effective date of this

1 act, the commission shall issue a written report on its
2 investigation and recommendations to the legislature and the
3 governor. Follow-up reports shall be issued at least annually and
4 may be issued more frequently if the commission deems it advisable.

5 Sec. 6. This act is repealed effective January 1, 2010.