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HOUSE BILL 1998

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State of Washington

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By Representatives Johnson, Morris, Short, Wylie, Smith, McCabe, Nealey, Tarleton, Tharinger, and Van De Wege

Read first time 02/05/15. Referred to Committee on Technology & Economic Development.

1 AN ACT Relating to allowing public utility districts to produce  
2 and sell renewable natural gas; and amending RCW 54.04.190.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 54.04.190 and 2007 c 348 s 210 are each amended to  
5 read as follows:

6 (1) In addition to any other authority provided by law, public  
7 utility districts are authorized to produce and distribute biodiesel,  
8 ethanol, and ethanol blend fuels, including entering into crop  
9 purchase contracts for a dedicated energy crop for the purpose of  
10 generating electricity or producing biodiesel produced from  
11 Washington feedstocks, cellulosic ethanol, and cellulosic ethanol  
12 blend fuels for use in internal operations of the electric utility  
13 and for sale or distribution.

14 (2)(a) Public utility districts are authorized to produce  
15 renewable natural gas and utilize the renewable natural gas that they  
16 produce for internal operations and for sale. Public utility  
17 districts are not authorized to own or operate natural gas  
18 distribution pipeline systems used to serve retail customers.  
19 Interconnection pipes that connect a public utility district's  
20 production facilities to gas transmission pipelines are considered

1 production facilities and are not considered distribution pipeline  
2 systems used to serve retail customers.

3 (b) For the purposes of this subsection, "renewable natural gas"  
4 means a gas consisting largely of methane and other hydrocarbons  
5 derived from the decomposition of organic materials in landfills,  
6 wastewater treatment facilities, and anaerobic digesters.

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