

House File 159 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 159

BY SHIPLEY

A BILL FOR

1 An Act providing for the regulation of wind energy conversion
2 facility installations by counties.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 331.301, Code 2019, is amended by adding
2 the following new subsection:

3 NEW SUBSECTION. 18. Notwithstanding section 476A.6, the
4 board of supervisors may establish standards and requirements
5 regarding the installation or siting of wind energy conversion
6 facilities and shall make the final determination regarding
7 the installation or siting of any such facility. For purposes
8 of this subsection, "*wind energy conversion facility*" means the
9 same as defined in section 476C.1.

10 Sec. 2. Section 476A.5, Code 2019, is amended by adding the
11 following new subsection:

12 NEW SUBSECTION. 4. Notwithstanding section 476A.6 and
13 any other provision in this subchapter to the contrary, the
14 board of supervisors of a county may establish standards and
15 requirements regarding the installation or siting of wind
16 energy conversion facilities located within the jurisdiction of
17 the county and shall make the final determination regarding the
18 installation or siting of any such facility pursuant to section
19 331.301, subsection 18. For purposes of this subsection, "*wind*
20 *energy conversion facility*" means the same as defined in section
21 476C.1.

22 EXPLANATION

23 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
24 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

25 Current law requires the Iowa utilities board to regulate
26 the installation of electric power generating facilities in the
27 state with a total capacity of 25 megawatts of electricity or
28 more, including wind energy conversion facilities. A person
29 shall not construct such a facility unless issued a certificate
30 by the board.

31 This bill allows the board of supervisors of a county to
32 establish standards and requirements regarding the installation
33 or siting of wind energy conversion facilities within the
34 jurisdiction of the county and provides that the board of
35 supervisors shall make the final determination regarding

1 the installation or siting of any such facility. The bill
2 defines "wind energy conversion facility" to mean a wind energy
3 conversion system in Iowa that collects and converts wind into
4 energy to generate electricity.