

House File 2238 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 2238
BY SHIPLEY

A BILL FOR

- 1 An Act providing for a study to determine the cost and
- 2 feasibility of acquiring certain public utilities or their
- 3 assets.
- 4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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1 Section 1. DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES — ACQUIRING
2 CERTAIN PUBLIC UTILITIES — STUDY.

3 1. The general assembly finds that certain public utilities
4 subject to rate regulation are derelict in their obligation
5 to their customers with conduct that is unsuitable for an
6 entity enjoying the immense privilege of a government-sanctioned
7 monopoly.

8 2. The department of administrative services shall work with
9 an investment firm, selected at the discretion of the department,
10 to conduct a study determining the cost and feasibility of
11 the state of Iowa acquiring a public utility subject to rate
12 regulation under chapter 476, or the public utility's assets
13 within the state, that provides electric and natural gas service
14 to more than two hundred thousand customers in the state and is
15 headquartered outside of Iowa. The department shall determine
16 the cost and feasibility of reorganizing or reallocating the
17 assets of any such public utility in a way that maximizes
18 the benefit to electric and natural gas customers within the
19 public utility's current service territory. The department shall
20 submit a report detailing its findings and recommendations to the
21 general assembly on or before December 15, 2026.

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 This bill provides for a study to determine the cost and
26 feasibility of the state of Iowa acquiring certain public
27 utilities or their assets.

28 The bill includes legislative findings stating that certain
29 public utilities subject to rate regulation are derelict in their
30 obligations to customers and have engaged in conduct unsuitable
31 for entities operating as government-sanctioned monopolies.

32 The bill requires the department of administrative services
33 (department) to work with a large investment firm, selected at
34 the department's discretion, to conduct a study to determine the
35 cost and feasibility of the state of Iowa acquiring a public

1 utility that is subject to rate regulation under Code chapter
2 476, or the public utility's assets within the state, that
3 provides electric and natural gas service to more than 200,000
4 customers in Iowa and is headquartered outside the state.

5 The bill further requires the study to determine the cost
6 and feasibility of reorganizing or reallocating the assets of
7 any such public utility in a way that maximizes the benefit to
8 electric and natural gas customers within the utility's current
9 service territory. The bill requires the department to submit a
10 report detailing its findings and recommendations to the general
11 assembly by December 15, 2026.

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