

JOINT COMMITTEE ON TELECOMMUNICATIONS, UTILITIES, AND ENERGY

BILL SUMMARY

BILL NO. H.3548

TITLE: An Act limiting the eligibility of woody biomass as an alternative energy supply

SPONSOR: Representative Orlando Ramos

COMMITTEE: Telecommunications, Utilities, and Energy

HEARING DATE: June 18, 2025

PRIOR HISTORY: 2023-2024: H.3211, heard by committee; no further action taken

CURRENT LAW:

Section 11F1/2 of Chapter 25A of the General Laws establishes the Alternative Portfolio Energy Standard, which includes requirements and incentives for alternative electricity technologies. Eligible technologies include, among other sources, facilities that generate useful thermal energy using low-emission biomass fuels that utilize efficient energy conversion technologies and are produced by sustainable forestry practices.

SUMMARY:

This bill would prohibit intermediate or large units participating in the APS from using woody biomass fuel as an alternative energy supply. It would also exempt biomass facilities qualified by DOER as an alternative energy unit as of January 1, 2023, from this act's requirements. This act shall take effect upon passage.