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Electric Reliability Act

Congress: 107 (2001–2003, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Energy

Introduced: Jan 24, 2001

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. (text of measure as intro

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. (text of measure as introduced: CR S544-548) (Jan 24, 2001)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/107th-congress/senate-bill/172>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Smith, Gordon H. [R-OR]

Party: Republican • **State:** OR • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (2 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Burns, Conrad R. [R-MT]	R · MT		Mar 8, 2001
Sen. Cantwell, Maria [D-WA]	D · WA		Sep 12, 2001

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Energy and Natural Resources Committee	Senate	Referred To	Jan 24, 2001

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Energy

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Summary (as of Jan 24, 2001)

Electric Reliability Act - Amends the Federal Power Act to establish mandatory reliability standards for the bulk-power system.

Grants the Federal Energy Regulatory Corporation (FERC) jurisdiction, over: (1) the electric reliability organization (ERO, established by this Act); (2) Affiliated Regional Reliability Entities; (3) system operators; and (4) users of the bulk-power system.

Mandates that: (1) ERO take appropriate steps to gain recognition in Canada and Mexico; and (2) the United States use its best efforts to enter into agreements with Canada and Mexico to effectuate compliance with ERO standards.

Grants the ERO disciplinary and enforcement powers. Permits recovery of implementation and enforcement costs incurred by the ERO and each Affiliated Regional Reliability Entity, respectively.

Instructs FERC to establish a regional advisory body upon the petition of certain State Governors.

Limits ERO authority exclusively to bulk-power system reliability standards.

Denies the ERO and FERC any authority to set and enforce compliance with adequacy or safety standards governing either electric facilities or services.

Declares that nothing in this Act preempts State action that is not inconsistent with ERO standards.

Actions Timeline

- **Jan 24, 2001:** Introduced in Senate
- **Jan 24, 2001:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S543-544)
- **Jan 24, 2001:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. (text of measure as introduced: CR S544-548)

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