



Washington State Senate

PO Box 40435, Olympia, WA 98504-0435

Senator Drew MacEwen

35th Legislative District

SEATTLE WA 980

8 JUL 2026 PM 6 L



The Honorable Nick Brown

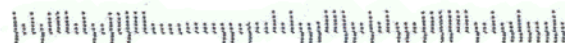
Attorney General of Washington

State of Washington

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June 24, 2026

The Honorable Nick Brown
Attorney General of Washington
State of Washington
PO Box 40100
Olympia, WA 98504-0100

RE: Formal Request for Attorney General's Opinion Regarding SB 6355 (Chapter 249, Laws of 2026)

Dear Attorney General Brown,

In my capacity as senator for the 35th legislative district, I am writing to formally request a legal opinion from your office regarding the statutory interpretation of certain provisions enacted under Senate Bill 6355 (Chapter 249, Laws of 2026).

Specifically, questions have arisen regarding the scope of the prohibition outlined in Section 4, subsection (5), and how it interacts with the mandatory member expertise requirements established in other subsections of the same chapter. To ensure proper implementation and compliance with the law, I respectfully submit the following two questions for your analysis and opinion:

1. **Does the prohibition in Section 4, subsection (5), Chapter 249, Laws of 2026, apply strictly to individuals with direct personal equity/ownership in an electrical generation or transmission facility, or does it extend to officers, elected or appointed officials, and/or employees of any investor-owned utility, public utility district, municipal utility, or rural electric cooperative that owns such facilities?**
2. **How does this prohibition interact with the member expertise requirements outlined in Section 4, subsection (2)(b), (c), (e), (f), (g), and (h) and subsection (3)?**

The intent behind Chapter 249, Laws of 2026, includes establishing specific qualifications and expertise for body members while maintaining robust conflict-of-interest protections. However, a strict reading of the prohibition in Section 4(5) creates a potential operational conflict. If the prohibition is interpreted broadly to encompass any employee or official of an entity that owns generation or transmission facilities, it may effectively disqualify the exact experts mandated by subsections (2) and (3) to serve on the body.

Thank you for your time, consideration, and dedication to clarifying these important legal matters for the State of Washington. I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized 'C' followed by a long horizontal line that tapers off to the right.