
HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND
TOURISM TO CONDUCT A STUDY ON CREATING A ONE-STOP PERMIT
SHOP FOR RENEWABLE ENERGY PROJECTS.

1 WHEREAS, the Legislature finds that Hawaii's dependency on
2 petroleum is the highest in the nation, accounting for
3 approximately ninety per cent of the State's energy needs; and
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5 WHEREAS, Hawaii's high petroleum dependency makes consumers
6 extremely vulnerable to any disruption of petroleum imports,
7 such as oil embargos, supply disruptions, international market
8 dysfunctions, and many other factors beyond the State's control;
9 and
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11 WHEREAS, the Department of Business, Economic Development,
12 and Tourism has committed to energy objectives toward achieving
13 dependable, efficient, and statewide economic energy systems,
14 increased self-sufficiency, greater energy security, and
15 reduction of greenhouse gas emissions; and
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17 WHEREAS, Act 272, Session Laws of Hawaii 2001, was enacted
18 to recognize the economic, environmental, and fuel diversity
19 benefits of renewable energy resources and the need to encourage
20 the establishment of a market for renewable energy in Hawaii,
21 using the State's renewable energy resources; and
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23 WHEREAS, Act 240, Session Laws of Hawaii 2006, was enacted
24 to provide a framework for energy self-sufficiency; and
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26 WHEREAS, the State has committed to meeting a renewable
27 energy standard that requires twenty per cent of electricity
28 sold in Hawaii to be generated from renewable resources by the
29 end of 2020; and
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31 WHEREAS, the State has sought also to encourage private
32 sector development of renewable energy projects; and
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1 WHEREAS, the Hawaii Integrated Energy Policy Report of 1991
2 found that the "permits and approvals that may be required for
3 the development and siting of energy facilities can take up to
4 seven years for a single project"; and
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6 WHEREAS, renewable energy projects are often complex,
7 large-scale undertakings requiring a number of permits; and
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9 WHEREAS, the Legislature recognizes a need to streamline
10 the permit process to provide predictability and to encourage
11 private companies to commit the substantial amounts of capital,
12 time, and effort necessary to develop renewable energy projects;
13 and
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15 WHEREAS, the Legislature recognizes that the State needs to
16 provide further incentives for renewable energy projects, such
17 as grants, tax credits, and other assistance; and
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19 WHEREAS, the Legislature finds that renewable energy
20 projects can provide substantial long-term benefits to the State
21 and that developing renewable energy projects would further
22 state policies of developing indigenous renewable energy
23 resources and decreasing Hawaii's dependency on imported fossil
24 fuels; and
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26 WHEREAS, the Legislature is committed to advancing projects
27 that support renewable energy technology and that help meet the
28 State's renewable energy portfolio standards; and
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30 WHEREAS, the Legislature recognizes that Hawaii's energy
31 situation provides both challenges and opportunities, that the
32 State may bridge these challenges with opportunities to partner
33 with the private sector, that these projects may need special
34 assistance from the State to streamline the permitting process
35 and to provide further incentives toward meeting the State's
36 energy objectives of achieving dependable, efficient, and
37 statewide economic energy systems, increased energy self-
38 sufficiency, greater energy security, and reduction of
39 greenhouse gas emissions; now, therefore,
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41 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
42 Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
43 Session of 2007, that this body requests the Department of
44 Business, Economic Development, and Tourism to conduct a study



1 of the feasibility of creating a one-stop permit shop for
2 renewable energy projects to expedite the permit process; and
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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Business,
5 Economic Development, and Tourism is requested to submit a
6 report with its findings and recommendations, including
7 suggested legislation, to the Legislature not later than twenty
8 days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2008; and
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10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
11 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor and the Director of
12 the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism.
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OFFERED BY:

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MAR 14 2007

