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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that climate change poses  
2 a grave threat to Hawaii's economic well-being, public health,  
3 natural resources, and environment. Greenhouse gas emissions  
4 from burning fossil fuels for transportation and energy  
5 production are the greatest contributors to global warming and  
6 climate change.

7           Act 234, Session Laws of Hawaii 2007, took dramatic action  
8 to combat climate change by requiring the State to reduce  
9 greenhouse gas emissions to 1990 levels by January 1, 2020.  
10 Although this is a bold step, the legislature finds that it is  
11 not enough. The legislature finds that the timetable  
12 established by Act 234 should be punctuated with benchmarks for  
13 achieving greenhouse gas reductions.

14           The purpose of this Act is to establish earlier periodic  
15 benchmarks for reducing greenhouse gas emissions in the State to  
16 provide further incentive for reductions and speed the process  
17 of reducing greenhouse gas emissions.



1 SECTION 2. Act 234, Session Laws of Hawaii 2007, is  
2 amended by amending section 2 to read as follows:

3 "SECTION 2. **Declaration of policy.** By January 1, 2020,  
4 the State of Hawaii shall reduce statewide greenhouse gas  
5 emissions to levels at or below the best estimations and updates  
6 of the inventory of greenhouse gas emissions estimates for 1990.  
7 Prior to January 1, 2020, the State shall achieve the following  
8 benchmarks:

- 9 (1) At least fifty per cent of the target greenhouse gas  
10 emissions reduction amount shall be achieved by  
11 January 1, 2015; and  
12 (2) At least seventy-five per cent of the target  
13 greenhouse gas emissions reduction amount shall be  
14 achieved by January 1, 2018."

15 SECTION 3. Section 342B-71, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
16 amended to read as follows:

17 "**§342B-71 Statewide greenhouse gas emissions limit,**  
18 **adoption.** (a) A statewide greenhouse gas emissions limit to be  
19 achieved by 2020 is hereby established that is equal to or below  
20 the level of the statewide greenhouse gas emissions in 1990, as  
21 determined by section 3 of Act 234, Session Laws of Hawaii 2007;



1 provided that for the purposes of this [~~Act~~] part, greenhouse  
2 gas emissions from airplanes shall not be included.

3 (b) For the purposes of achieving the greenhouse gas  
4 emissions limit pursuant to subsection (a), the State shall  
5 achieve the following benchmarks prior to January 1, 2020:

6 (1) At least fifty per cent of the target greenhouse gas  
7 emissions reduction amount shall be achieved by  
8 January 1, 2015; and

9 (2) At least seventy-five per cent of the target  
10 greenhouse gas emissions reduction amount shall be  
11 achieved by January 1, 2018."

12 SECTION 4. Section 342B-72, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
13 amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

14 "(a) Before December 31, 2011, the director shall adopt  
15 rules pursuant to chapter 91:

16 (1) Establishing greenhouse gas emission limits applicable  
17 to sources or categories of sources, to be achieved by  
18 January 1, 2020, and [~~establishing~~] benchmark dates  
19 specified in section 342B-71(b);

20 (2) Establishing emission reduction measures to achieve  
21 the maximum practically and technically feasible and  
22 cost-effective reductions in greenhouse gas emissions



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1           in furtherance of achieving the statewide greenhouse  
 2           gas emissions [~~limit;~~] limits; and  
 3        [~~(2)~~] (3) Requiring the reporting and verification of  
 4           statewide greenhouse gas emissions and to monitor and  
 5           enforce compliance with this part,  
 6        to become operative beginning on January 1, 2012."

7           SECTION 5. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
 8        and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

9           SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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**Report Title:**

Greenhouse Gas Emissions

**Description:**

Establishes greenhouse gas emissions reduction benchmarks to be achieved prior to 01/01/20.

