
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that Hawaii is especially
2 vulnerable to the volatility in global oil markets. In November
3 2007, oil prices reached \$100 per barrel. Electric utilities
4 will shift these high fuel costs to electric utility consumers
5 in the form of higher electric utility rates. For example,
6 residential electric rates on Kauai could reach as high as 50
7 cents per kilowatt hour.

8 The legislature finds that net energy metering may
9 encourage more customers to seek to become eligible customer-
10 generators to take advantage of the month-to-month carryover of
11 unused credits associated with the production of excess
12 customer-generated electricity. Furthermore, the legislature
13 finds that amending the net energy metering statute will signal
14 to the public that the legislature intends that electricity
15 generated by residential and small commercial customer-
16 generators should play a significant role in the State's net
17 energy metering effort.



1 The purpose of this Act is to enhance Hawaii's net energy
2 metering law by providing that every electric utility shall
3 reserve a portion of the utility's net energy metering component
4 for electricity generated by eligible residential and small
5 commercial customer-generators. The legislature intends that
6 the reserved portion of the utility's net energy metering
7 component shall be of a percentage sufficient to encourage
8 residential and small commercial customer-generators to adopt
9 renewable energy technologies that are eligible under Hawaii's
10 net energy metering statute.

11 SECTION 2. Section 269-102, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
12 amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

13 "(a) Every electric utility shall develop a standard
14 contract or tariff providing for net energy metering and shall
15 make this contract available to eligible customer-generators,
16 upon request, on a first-come-first-served basis until the time
17 that the total rated generating capacity produced by eligible
18 customer-generators equals .5 per cent of the electric utility's
19 system peak demand; provided that the public utilities
20 commission may increase, by rule or order, the total rated
21 generating capacity produced by eligible customer-generators to
22 an amount above .5 per cent of the electric utility's system



1 peak demand[-]; provided further that the public utilities
2 commission shall ensure that a percentage of the total rated
3 generating capacity produced by eligible customer-generators
4 shall be reserved for electricity produced by eligible
5 residential or small commercial customer-generators. The public
6 utilities commission may define, by rule or order, the maximum
7 capacity for eligible residential or small commercial customer-
8 generators."

9 SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
10 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

11 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.



Report Title:

Public Utilities; Net Energy Metering

Description:

Requires the public utilities commission to ensure that a percentage of the total rated generating capacity produced by eligible customer-generators be reserved for electricity produced by eligible residential or small commercial customer-generators. Allows public utilities commission to define maximum capacity for eligible residential or small commercial customer-generators. (HB2550 HD1)

