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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE HAWAII ENERGY POLICY FORUM.

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

1 PART I.

2 SECTION 1. The Hawaii energy policy forum comprises a  
3 diverse group of stakeholders representing the renewable energy  
4 industry, electric utilities, labor organizations, oil and  
5 natural gas suppliers, environmental groups, and federal, state  
6 and local government, including representatives from the  
7 neighbor islands. The vision of the policy forum is to develop  
8 smart energy solutions to sustain a healthy, prosperous, and  
9 secure Hawaii. Its mission is to be a collaborative forum for  
10 sharing ideas and information, seeking consensus, recommending  
11 and advocating policies and initiatives, and promoting civic  
12 action to achieve a preferred energy future for Hawaii. Since  
13 its inception in 2002, the policy forum, in cooperation with the  
14 legislature and the administration, has led the efforts to  
15 initiate a number of improvements to Hawaii's energy laws and  
16 policies. It has held a number of informational briefings that  
17 have been free and open to the public in its effort to educate  
18 Hawaii's residents about energy issues.



1           A unique feature of the policy forum is its Ten Point Plan:  
2 an action plan that identifies specific areas of interest on  
3 which the forum will focus. It includes specific action items  
4 for each point and methods to achieve each goal. As with all  
5 the policy forum's outcomes, the Ten Point Plan is determined by  
6 a consensus of the policy forum's membership. The policy forum  
7 updated its ten point plan in August 2007 to take into account  
8 the initiatives that have been passed in the years since the  
9 forum's inception and the work that remains to be completed.

10           Although much has been accomplished in the past few years  
11 to position Hawaii as one of the leaders of renewable energy and  
12 energy efficiency in the country, there is much more that must  
13 be done. The cost of oil has increased substantially during  
14 2007, and this is expected to have a profound negative effect on  
15 Hawaii's economic well-being. This requires yet more steps be  
16 taken to reduce Hawaii's dependence on fossil fuels. Therefore,  
17 it is imperative that the policy forum continue its  
18 collaborative work with all energy stakeholders to ensure that  
19 Hawaii has a sustainable, renewable, and affordable energy  
20 future.

21           The purpose of this Part is to appropriate funds so that  
22 the Hawaii energy policy forum may continue to implement the



1 vision, concepts, and recommendations of the updated ten point  
2 plan to meet Hawaii's energy goals. This will allow  
3 stakeholders to continue their work from planning to  
4 implementation, and it will permit further engagement of  
5 policymakers, decision-makers, and consumers on issues relevant  
6 to creating Hawaii's preferred energy future.

7 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general  
8 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much  
9 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2008-2009 to  
10 continue the work of the Hawaii energy policy forum for the  
11 purpose of:

- 12 (1) Implementing the detailed action plans to achieve the  
13 Hawaii energy policy forum's Ten Point Plan to meet  
14 Hawaii's energy goals;
- 15 (2) Monitoring energy-related policies and programs to  
16 continually assess and update tangible goals,  
17 objectives, desired outcomes, and actions to achieve  
18 the energy vision and goals of the Hawaii energy  
19 policy forum;
- 20 (3) Continuing to refine and evaluate benchmarks for  
21 measuring outcomes of energy implementation  
22 strategies;



1 (4) Continuing to engage Hawaii's business, government,  
2 labor, and community leaders and integrate them into  
3 the policy activities and discussions of the Hawaii  
4 energy policy forum; and

5 (5) Continuing to educate the greater community and create  
6 public awareness about Hawaii's energy needs.

7 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the University of  
8 Hawaii at Manoa for the purposes of section 2 of this Act.

9 SECTION 3. The Hawaii energy policy forum shall submit a  
10 report on the updated detailed action plan and timeline to the  
11 legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of  
12 the regular session of 2009.

13 PART II.

14 SECTION 4. (a) Act 254, Session Laws of Hawaii 2007,  
15 appropriated funds to the University of Hawaii social sciences  
16 public policy center to enable the Hawaii energy policy forum at  
17 the University of Hawaii at Manoa to conduct a study on energy-  
18 efficient transportation strategies in conjunction with the  
19 department of business, economic development, and tourism. Act  
20 254 required that the study include the following criteria in  
21 its analysis:



- 1 (1) Developing tangible goals, objectives, desired  
2 outcomes, and actions to implement an energy-efficient  
3 transportation strategy;
- 4 (2) Developing implementation benchmarks for measuring  
5 outcomes of energy-efficient transportation  
6 strategies; and
- 7 (3) A cost-benefit analysis of each energy-efficient  
8 transportation strategy.

9 In August 2007, the Hawaii energy policy forum convened the  
10 energy-efficiency transportation strategies working group to  
11 develop the parameters of the study. The working group members  
12 included representatives from the department of transportation,  
13 the department of business, economic development, and tourism,  
14 each county's transportation division, labor organizations,  
15 transportation planning organizations, petroleum refineries, and  
16 the automobile dealers and manufacturers industries.

17 The working group developed a vision of "an energy-  
18 efficient transportation system that integrated effective  
19 community input and planning (demand), and offered people of all  
20 ages and walks of life flexible options (supply), including mass  
21 transit, private and public vehicles and self-powered conveyance



1 in alternative combinations that provide mobility at acceptable  
2 cost."

3 The working group also established three goals on which the  
4 study should focus:

5 (1) Increase choices for modes of travel: Multiple modes  
6 of travel permit greater public choice for efficient  
7 and flexible trip planning;

8 (2) Increase fuel efficiency of vehicle population:  
9 Incentives to improve the fuel efficiency of Hawaii's  
10 vehicle population will influence consumer behavior in  
11 favor of buying and using more efficient vehicles; and

12 (3) Diversify energy sources available to meet  
13 transportation energy needs: Greater diversity of  
14 energy sources provides additional flexibility in  
15 meeting the energy needs of the transportation sector.

16 (b) The working group also agreed upon the following:

17 (1) In order to agree upon specific transportation energy-  
18 efficiency benchmarks and goals for the State as  
19 required in Act 254, additional review of relevant  
20 data is needed. The data that should be considered by  
21 the working group includes transportation demand and



1 fuel consumption data from the State and counties and  
2 their respective government agency sources;

3 (2) The State will be more likely to meet its goals and  
4 make progress toward meeting long-term benchmarks if  
5 current information on transportation system energy-  
6 efficiency is regularly available and changes in  
7 energy efficiency of the transportation sector are  
8 regularly monitored; and

9 (3) In order to regularly monitor progress toward meeting  
10 the benchmarks that would be recommended, a statewide  
11 transportation sector energy-efficiency information  
12 and monitoring system should be established and  
13 maintained.

14 (c) The purpose of this Part is to appropriate funds for  
15 the Hawaii energy policy forum to continue its work with the  
16 energy-efficiency transportation strategies working group  
17 created in response to Act 254, to develop energy-efficient  
18 transportation strategies.

19 SECTION 5. (a) The Hawaii energy policy forum at the  
20 University of Hawaii at Manoa shall conduct a study on energy-  
21 efficient transportation strategies in conjunction with the  
22 department of business, economic development, and tourism, the



1 department of transportation, and members of the energy-  
2 efficient transportation strategies working group. The working  
3 group shall be selected by the Hawaii energy policy forum and  
4 shall be comprised of appropriate corporate, private, and  
5 government representatives.

6 (b) The energy-efficient transportation strategies study  
7 under subsection (a) shall include but not be limited to:

- 8 (1) Determining data available among government and  
9 business sources pertinent to energy-efficient  
10 transportation strategies;  
11 (2) Identifying gaps in critical data; and  
12 (3) Developing a reasonable and workable plan for  
13 developing, using, and maintaining a statewide  
14 transportation energy information and monitoring  
15 system.

16 (c) The University of Hawaii social sciences public policy  
17 center and the Hawaii energy policy forum shall continue to  
18 engage and integrate the energy-efficiency transportation  
19 strategies working group to engage Hawaii's business,  
20 government, labor, and community leaders into the study on  
21 energy-efficient transportation strategies.





1           (d) The department of business, economic development, and  
2 tourism, the department of transportation, and the members of  
3 the energy-efficiency transportation strategies working group  
4 shall consult with and otherwise assist the University of Hawaii  
5 social sciences public policy center and the Hawaii energy  
6 policy forum on the energy-efficient transportation strategies  
7 study.

8           (e) The Hawaii energy policy forum shall submit an interim  
9 report to the legislature no later than twenty days prior to the  
10 convening of the regular session of 2009, and a final report of  
11 its findings and recommendations, including any proposed  
12 legislation, to the legislature no later than twenty days prior  
13 to the convening of the regular session of 2010.

14           SECTION 6. There is appropriated out of the general  
15 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$                    or so  
16 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2008-2009 for  
17 conducting a study on energy-efficient transportation  
18 strategies.

19           The sum appropriated shall be expended by the University of  
20 Hawaii for the purposes of section 5 of this Act.

21           SECTION 7. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2008.



**Report Title:**

Hawaii Energy Policy Forum; Energy Efficiency; Transportation

**Description:**

Makes appropriations for the continuation of the Hawaii Energy Policy Forum and to conduct a study on energy-efficient transportation strategies. (SB2624 SD1)

