
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO RENEWABLE ENERGY.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the Hawaii natural
2 energy institute at the University of Hawaii's school of ocean
3 and earth science technology was recently selected by the United
4 States Department of Energy as one of two National Marine
5 Renewable Energy Research Centers. The selection means that the
6 University of Hawaii will receive a grant of approximately
7 \$1,250,000 per year for as many as five years to conduct
8 renewable energy research and development of technologies that
9 harness the power of waves and ocean thermal energy for
10 conversion into a renewable energy source for the State.

11 The National Marine Renewable Energy Center is to be a
12 catalyst in public and private partnerships that will assess,
13 evaluate, and commercialize the viability and cost-competiveness
14 of using advanced water power systems.

15 The timing of the designation of the national Marine
16 Renewable Energy Research Center in Hawaii dovetails with the
17 recent signing of the Clean Energy Agreement by the governor,
18 state consumer advocate, department of business, economic



1 development, and tourism, and Hawaiian Electric Company, on
2 behalf of its three electric utility companies. Part of the
3 Clean Energy Agreement calls for the Hawaiian Electric utility
4 companies, in conjunction with the State and the approval of the
5 public utilities commission, to develop a clean energy scenario
6 plan. To be included in the clean energy scenario plan are the
7 identification of renewable energy zones for renewable energy
8 development.

9 The purpose of this Act is to direct the department of
10 business, economic development, and tourism, department of land
11 and natural resources, public utilities commission, and Hawaiian
12 Electric utility companies to participate with the Hawaii
13 natural energy institute at the University of Hawaii's school of
14 ocean and earth science and technology to identify and designate
15 a geographic area or areas in the waters not more than three
16 miles from the island of Oahu as a renewable energy zone for the
17 establishment of wave energy conversion platforms for the
18 research and development of wave energy conversion platforms for
19 commercial application in the conversion of wave energy into a
20 renewable energy for the residents of Oahu.

21 SECTION 2. The department of business, economic
22 development, and tourism, department of land and natural



1 resources, and public utilities commission are directed to
 2 provide any necessary assistance and expedite any request for
 3 any permits or other approvals required by the Hawaii natural
 4 energy institute at the University of Hawaii school of ocean and
 5 earth science and technology and the Hawaiian Electric Company
 6 utility companies in the development of the clean energy
 7 scenario plan and the identification and designation of one or
 8 more renewable energy zones in the waters not more than three
 9 miles from the island of Oahu for wave energy conversion
 10 platforms for the development of commercial sources of wave
 11 energy for electric consumers on the island of Oahu.

12 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.
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Report Title:

Renewable Energy; Wave Energy

Description:

Directs DLNR, DBED&T, and PUC to assist Hawaii Natural energy Institute in the identification and designation of one or more renewable energy zones in the waters not more than three miles from Oahu for a wave energy converter platforms.

