
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO TAXATION.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that current technology
2 in generating electric power allows for a variety of liquid
3 fuels. While diesel fuel and fuel oil are used in older
4 electric power generation technology, newer technology permits
5 the use of multiple types of liquid fuel, some of which were
6 previously used for transportation purposes, such as naphtha.

7 Upon finding that the State's highway tax law did not
8 specifically address naphtha when it is used for electric-power
9 generation, the legislature passed Act 103, Session Laws of
10 Hawaii 2007 (Act 103), that imposed a 1 cent per gallon tax on
11 naphtha when sold for use in a power-generating facility. The
12 provision imposing the 1 cent per gallon tax is scheduled to
13 sunset on December 31, 2009.

14 The purpose of this Act is to:

15 (1) Extend by three years the sunset provision in Act 103
16 relating to the tax on naphtha sold for use in a
17 power-generating facility; and



1 (2) Increase the tax from 1 cent per gallon to 2 cents per
2 gallon.

3 SECTION 2. Section 243-4, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
4 amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

5 "(a) Every distributor, in addition to any other taxes
6 provided by law, shall pay a license tax to the department of
7 taxation for each gallon of liquid fuel refined, manufactured,
8 produced, or compounded by the distributor and sold or used by
9 the distributor in the State or imported by the distributor, or
10 acquired by the distributor from persons who are not licensed
11 distributors, and sold or used by the distributor in the State.
12 Any person who sells or uses any liquid fuel, knowing that the
13 distributor from whom it was originally purchased has not paid
14 and is not paying the tax thereon, shall pay such tax as would
15 have applied to such sale or use by the distributor. The rates
16 of tax imposed are as follows:

- 17 (1) For each gallon of diesel oil, 2 cents;
- 18 (2) For each gallon of gasoline or other aviation fuel
19 sold for use in or used for airplanes, 2 cents;
- 20 (3) For each gallon of naphtha sold for use in a power-
21 generating facility, [~~1-cent,~~] 2 cents;



1 (4) For each gallon of liquid fuel, other than fuel
2 mentioned in paragraphs (1), (2), and (3), and other
3 than an alternative fuel, sold or used in the city and
4 county of Honolulu, or sold in any county for ultimate
5 use in the city and county of Honolulu, 17 cents state
6 tax, and in addition thereto an amount, to be known as
7 the "city and county of Honolulu fuel tax", as shall
8 be levied pursuant to section 243-5;

9 (5) For each gallon of liquid fuel, other than fuel
10 mentioned in paragraphs (1), (2), and (3), and other
11 than an alternative fuel, sold or used in the county
12 of Hawaii, or sold in any county for ultimate use in
13 the county of Hawaii, 17 cents state tax, and in
14 addition thereto an amount, to be known as the "county
15 of Hawaii fuel tax", as shall be levied pursuant to
16 section 243-5;

17 (6) For each gallon of liquid fuel, other than fuel
18 mentioned in paragraphs (1), (2), and (3), and other
19 than an alternative fuel, sold or used in the county
20 of Maui, or sold in any county for ultimate use in the
21 county of Maui, 17 cents state tax, and in addition
22 thereto an amount, to be known as the "county of Maui



1 fuel tax", as shall be levied pursuant to section 243-
2 5; and

3 (7) For each gallon of liquid fuel, other than fuel
4 mentioned in paragraphs (1), (2), and (3), and other
5 than an alternative fuel, sold or used in the county
6 of Kauai, or sold in any county for ultimate use in
7 the county of Kauai, 17 cents state tax, and in
8 addition thereto an amount, to be known as the "county
9 of Kauai fuel tax", as shall be levied pursuant to
10 section 243-5.

11 If it is shown to the satisfaction of the department, based
12 upon proper records and from any other evidence as the
13 department may require, that liquid fuel, other than fuel
14 mentioned in paragraphs (1), (2), and (3), is used for
15 agricultural equipment that does not operate upon the public
16 highways of the State, the user thereof may obtain a refund of
17 all taxes thereon imposed by this section in excess of 1 cent
18 per gallon. The department shall adopt rules to administer such
19 refunds."

20 SECTION 3. Act 103, Session Laws of Hawaii 2007, is
21 amended by amending section 5 to read as follows:

1 "SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect upon its approval;
2 provided that:

3 (1) The amendments made to this Act to:

4 (A) The definition of "power-generating facility" in
5 section 243-1, Hawaii Revised Statutes; and

6 (B) Section 243-4(a), Hawaii Revised Statutes~~[+]~~,
7 shall be repealed on December 31, ~~[2009,]~~ 2012, and
8 section 243-4(a), Hawaii Revised Statutes, shall be
9 reenacted in the form in which it read on the day
10 before the effective date of this Act; and

11 (2) The rate of tax for naphtha as provided for in section
12 243-4(a)(3), Hawaii Revised Statutes, shall be
13 effective retroactively and apply to any imposition of
14 the fuel tax on naphtha sold for use in a power-
15 generating facility."

16 SECTION 4. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
17 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

18 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2009.



H.B. NO. 371
H.D. 2
S.D. 2
C.D. 1

Report Title:

Sunset; Naphtha Fuel Tax; Power Generation

Description:

Extends by three years the sunset provision relating to the tax on naphtha fuel sold for use in a power-generating facility. Increases the tax from 1 cent per gallon to 2 cents per gallon. (HB371 CD1)

