
HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO STUDY
THE POTENTIAL IMPACTS OF PLACING HYDROELECTRIC GENERATING
DEVICES ALONG MOUNTAIN STREAMS.

1 WHEREAS, hydroelectric power presents a promising,
2 sustainable source of energy that can increase renewable energy
3 generation in the State; and
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5 WHEREAS, the State's tropical climate and immense mountain
6 ranges produce significant amounts of rainfall that travels from
7 the mountains to the sea, making ideal conditions for
8 hydroelectric energy generation along those waterways; and
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10 WHEREAS, the construction and use of hydroelectric
11 generating devices, however, might impact negatively on fresh
12 water ecosystems and aquatic habitats of native or endangered
13 species; and
14

15 WHEREAS, while most of the land along rivers, streams, and
16 smaller waterways are state-owned agricultural or conservation
17 land, private landowners, trusts, and other entities that own
18 adjacent land may create jurisdictional issues; and
19

20 WHEREAS, while constructing and maintaining hydroelectric
21 generating devices might create the potential for significant
22 monetary and environmental costs, the benefit of renewable
23 energy production could outweigh the upfront expenses and any
24 negligible environmental impacts; now, therefore,
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26 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
27 Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
28 of 2009, that the Department of Land and Natural Resources is
29 requested to study the potential impacts of placing
30 hydroelectric generating devices along mountain streams; and
31

32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Land and
33 Natural Resources is requested to include in the study:
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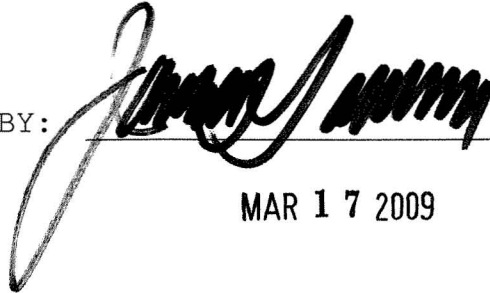


- 1 (1) The fiscal impact of constructing and maintaining
- 2 hydroelectric generating devices along mountain
- 3 streams;
- 4
- 5 (2) The potential harm to endangered species in the
- 6 surrounding areas that may arise in relation to the
- 7 placement of hydroelectric generating devices; and
- 8
- 9 (3) Any jurisdictional issues that may arise with respect
- 10 to private property and water rights; and
- 11

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Land and
13 Natural Resources is requested to submit a written report of its
14 finding and recommendations to the Legislature no later than
15 twenty days prior to the convening of the 2010 Regular Session;
16 and

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18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
19 Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the Board of
20 Land and Natural Resources.

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22
23 OFFERED BY:



MAR 17 2009

