
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR PROMOTING AND ACCELERATING THE INCREASED USE AND DEVELOPMENT OF RENEWABLE POWER GENERATION THROUGH FEED-IN TARIFFS, AND REQUESTING THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION TO ADOPT AND IMPLEMENT TRUE FEED-IN TARIFFS FOR CLEAN ENERGY SYSTEMS UP TO TWENTY MEGAWATTS IN SIZE.

1 WHEREAS, the State of Hawaii and the United States
2 Department of Energy signed a Memorandum of Understanding in
3 January 2008 to launch the Hawaii Clean Energy Initiative with
4 the goals of meeting at least seventy per cent of Hawaii's
5 energy needs with clean and indigenous renewable energy
6 resources by 2030, providing long-term economic and
7 environmental benefits to the people of Hawaii including price
8 stability and lower energy costs in the long-term, energy
9 security, and economic growth and diversification; and
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11 WHEREAS, the State of Hawaii and the Hawaiian Electric
12 companies entered into the Energy Agreement Among the State of
13 Hawaii, Division of Consumer Advocacy of the Department of
14 Commerce and Consumer Affairs, and the Hawaiian Electric
15 Companies (the "Voluntary Energy Agreement") on October 20,
16 2008, to move decisively and irreversibly away from imported
17 fossil fuel for electricity and transportation and towards
18 indigenously produced and renewable energy and an ethic of
19 energy efficiency, and in doing so, agreed to promote and
20 accelerate the use and development of renewable power generation
21 and technologies through changes to the regulatory framework,
22 such as the implementation of a decoupling mechanism and feed-in
23 tariffs; and
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25 WHEREAS, the Public Utilities Commission initiated
26 Docket No. 2008-0273 (the "Docket") on October 24, 2008 to
27 investigate and evaluate the design and implementation of
28 feed-in tariffs in accordance with the Voluntary Energy
29 Agreement; and
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1 WHEREAS, feed-in tariffs have been proven to be an
2 effective tool in fostering the development of renewable power
3 generation and technologies by providing certainty and stability
4 to the purchased power rates and the project developer's revenue
5 stream, as well as a more transparent and streamlined utility
6 procurement and interconnection process; and
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8 WHEREAS, feed-in tariffs can help businesses engaged in the
9 development of renewable energy resources and technologies, as
10 well as customer-sited distributed generation; now, therefore,
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12 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fifth
13 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2009, the
14 House of Representatives concurring, that the Legislature hereby
15 expresses support for promoting and accelerating the increased
16 use and development of renewable power generation through
17 feed-in tariffs, which will provide significant economic and
18 environmental incentives and yield economic and environmental
19 benefits and opportunities; and
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21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature hereby urges
22 the Public Utilities Commission to adopt and implement true
23 feed-in tariffs for clean energy systems up to twenty megawatts
24 in size, which will help the utilities fulfill their renewable
25 energy commitments in the Voluntary Energy Agreement and
26 increase and accelerate the utilities' procurement and
27 integration of renewable power generation and technologies to
28 the maximum extent possible in order to significantly decrease
29 Hawaii's dependence on imported fossil fuel; and
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31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature hereby makes
32 manifest its support for the perpetuation of the highly
33 successful net metering program in tandem with a feed-in tariff;
34 and
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36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
37 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the
38 Public Utilities Commission, the Executive Director of the
39 Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, Division of
40 Consumer Advocacy, and Docket intervenors.