

JAN 28 2009

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 wave energy
2 technology, also known as hydrokinetic energy, has great
3 potential in Hawaii. Recently, Oceanlinx Hawaii LLC unveiled
4 plans to provide electricity to Maui Electric Company from
5 Hawaii's first wave energy project. Wave energy is more
6 available and more predictable than most other types of
7 renewable resources, and this innovative project uses Hawaii's
8 abundant natural sources of energy to reduce dependence on
9 imported fossil fuel and increase energy security.

10 The legislature further finds that supporting the
11 development of hydrokinetic energy technology by identifying
12 locations for prospective hydrokinetic power facilities will
13 contribute to the use of this renewable energy resource of the
14 State and will provide numerous benefits, including:

15 (1) Reducing dependence on imported fossil fuels for
16 electrical generation, thereby increasing Hawaii's
17 energy security;



- 1 (2) Helping to meet Hawaii's renewable energy goals by
- 2 using existing natural energy resources; and
- 3 (3) Supporting the environmentally beneficial development
- 4 of one of Hawaii's abundant renewable energy
- 5 resources.

6 SECTION 2. (a) The department of land and natural
7 resources shall conduct a study of suitable locations in the
8 State, in cooperation with other state agencies, to identify
9 potential ocean zones or sites for hydrokinetic energy
10 facilities, including consideration of:

- 11 (1) Whether the location has a good wave regime;
- 12 (2) Proximity of the grid adjacent to the location;
- 13 (3) The absence of boating and surfing activity in the
- 14 location;
- 15 (4) The risk of a visual blight in the view plane; and
- 16 (5) Any other relevant characteristic, as recommended by
- 17 Oceanlinx Hawaii LLC.

18 (b) The department of land and natural resources shall
19 submit a report on its findings and recommendations, including
20 any proposed legislation, to the legislature no later than
21 twenty days prior to the convening of the 2010 regular session.

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1 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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Report Title:

DLNR; Renewable Energy; Hydrokinetic Energy; Wave

Description:

Requires the department of land and natural resources in cooperation with other state agencies to conduct a study to identify potential ocean zones suitable for hydrokinetic energy facilities.

