
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that every effort must be
2 made to ensure that more renewable energy is used in the State
3 to lessen our dependence on expensive and environmentally
4 harmful fossil fuels. Currently, only fifteen per cent of an
5 electric circuit demand may be supplied to an area circuit by
6 homeowner and business distributed generation, including solar
7 and wind power. When an area circuit reaches the fifteen per
8 cent threshold, homeowners and businesses that want to add
9 distributed generation to the grid are not allowed to do so,
10 which results in the use of more harmful fossil fuels and less
11 renewable energy. Such a restrictive cap on the use of
12 distributed generation is paradoxical to the State's long
13 asserted desire to increase the use of renewable energy.

14 The purpose of this Act is to require the public utilities
15 commission to adopt rules to require that the area circuit
16 threshold for distributed generation be no less than fifty per
17 cent.



1 SECTION 2. The public utilities commission shall adopt
2 rules pursuant to chapter 91, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to
3 require that the area circuit threshold for distributed
4 generation be no less than fifty per cent.

5 SECTION 3. The chair of the public utilities commission
6 shall submit a report to the legislature no later than twenty
7 days prior to the convening of the regular session of 2013 on
8 the status of the rules required under section 2 of this Act.

9 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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INTRODUCED BY: *Cynthia Thelen*

JAN 20 2012



H.B. NO. 2164

Report Title:

PUC; Area Circuit; Distributed Generation Threshold; 50%

Description:

Requires the PUC to adopt rules to require that the area circuit threshold for distributed generation be no less than 50%.

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