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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO ENERGY.

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

1           SECTION 1. As the most isolated and oil-dependent state in  
2 the nation, Hawaii faces pressing concerns regarding the  
3 security and costs of its energy resources. Hawaii relies on  
4 imported petroleum for the majority of its primary energy needs.  
5 In addition, once imported, fuel must be transported among  
6 islands thereby contributing to the State's highest-in-the-  
7 nation costs for electricity and gasoline.

8           The legislature finds that hydrogen produced from Hawaii's  
9 substantial renewable energy resources can benefit the State by,  
10 among other things:

- 11           (1) Increasing Hawaii's energy self-sufficiency by  
12           reducing its reliance on imported fossil fuel;
- 13           (2) Improving the state economy by lowering energy costs  
14           and generating new jobs associated with the expansion  
15           of renewable energy technologies; and
- 16           (3) Reducing harmful emissions by displacing fossil fuel-  
17           based energy sources.



1           The legislature finds that the State currently does not  
2 have an agreed-upon set of fire and safety requirements to  
3 support the safe production, delivery, and use of hydrogen as a  
4 fuel source. The National Fire Protection Association's  
5 Hydrogen Technologies Code is structured to work seamlessly with  
6 other National Fire Protection Association codes applicable to  
7 compressed and cryogenic gases, building codes, and fire codes.

8           The purpose of this Act is to enhance Hawaii's energy  
9 resources, improve the state economy, and reduce the State's  
10 dependence on imported fossil fuel by making the requirements of  
11 the National Fire Protection Association's Hydrogen Technologies  
12 Code applicable to all aspects of hydrogen production, storage,  
13 use, and handling in the State for stationary and portable  
14 applications.

15           SECTION 2. Chapter 196, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
16 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated  
17 and to read as follows:

18           "§196-     State hydrogen permitting authority, established;  
19 hydrogen technologies code, adopted. (a) The department of  
20 health is designated as the state hydrogen permitting authority.  
21           (b) The National Fire Protection Association's Hydrogen  
22 Technologies Code shall apply to all aspects of hydrogen



1 production, storage, use, and handling for stationary and  
2 portable applications in the State. No state agency or county  
3 permitting department shall permit production, storage, use, or  
4 handling of stationary or portable hydrogen applications in the  
5 State, except as permitted by the code.

6 (c) The state hydrogen permitting authority shall:

7 (1) Maintain the technical expertise necessary to evaluate  
8 project compliance with the code;

9 (2) Provide technical support to other state agencies and  
10 county permitting departments;

11 (3) Ensure that the State is using the most current  
12 version of the code;

13 (4) Ensure that the affected state agencies and county  
14 permitting departments are apprised of the most  
15 current version of the code;

16 (5) Be a member of the National Fire Protection  
17 Association's Hydrogen Technologies Code working  
18 group;

19 (6) Report any issues that arise in implementing and  
20 overseeing compliance with the code to the National  
21 Fire Protection Association's Hydrogen Technologies  
22 Code working group for evaluation; and





**Report Title:**

Energy; State Hydrogen Codes and Standards; Appropriation

**Description:**

Applies the National Fire Protection Association's Hydrogen Technologies Code to hydrogen production, storage, use, and handling for stationary and portable applications in the State and establishes the state hydrogen permitting authority. Contains appropriation. Effective July 1, 2012.

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

