
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION TO ADOPT RULES TO
REQUIRE ELECTRIC UTILITY COMPANIES TO PERMIT GROUP NET
METERING.

1 WHEREAS, Hawaii has supported its growing solar energy
2 market with incentives including tax credits, net metering, and
3 feed-in tariffs; and
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5 WHEREAS, numerous policies have been introduced to
6 encourage the use of renewable energy in the State and to work
7 toward the goals of the Hawaii Clean Energy Initiative; and
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9 WHEREAS, although incentives have encouraged many
10 residential users to invest in solar technology for their homes,
11 only twenty-two to twenty-seven percent of residential buildings
12 in the State are suitable for hosting on-site photovoltaic
13 energy systems due to structural features, shading, or ownership
14 issues; and
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16 WHEREAS, solar energy programs need to provide options for
17 residents and tenants in multi-unit buildings, residences, and
18 other buildings with rooftops that cannot accommodate
19 photovoltaic system placement, and for persons who otherwise
20 cannot install a photovoltaic system on-site; and
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22 WHEREAS, group net metering means the elective combination
23 of a group of customers or the multiple meters of a single
24 customer as a single billing entity for the purpose of
25 collective metering of electricity consumption; and
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27 WHEREAS, other states and municipalities have used group
28 net metering to make photovoltaic energy generation more widely
29 accessible to households and consumers and broaden investment in
30 solar energy; and
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1 WHEREAS, in addition to making photovoltaic energy more
2 accessible, participation in a group net metering program can
3 help consumers lower their up-front purchase costs for solar
4 energy systems; and
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6 WHEREAS, group net metering may also help the State reach
7 its solar energy goals by accelerating solar purchases; and
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9 WHEREAS, virtual net metering, a type of group net metering
10 that is available to entire communities, enables participants to
11 receive utility bill credits or another agreed-upon form of
12 compensation for the electricity produced by their share of a
13 jointly-owned photovoltaic system; now, therefore,
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15 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
16 Twenty-sixth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
17 of 2012, the Senate concurring, that the Public Utilities
18 Commission is requested to adopt rules to enable group net
19 metering that at a minimum prescribe:
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- 21 (1) The number of customer-generators that may participate
22 in a group net metering system;
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- 24 (2) The allowable geographic distribution of customers
25 that may participate in a group net metering system;
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- 27 (3) The total number of kilowatts that may be aggregated
28 among all customers participating in a group net
29 metering system;
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- 31 (4) The distribution of excess electricity credits among
32 meters or customers within a group net metering
33 system; and
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- 35 (5) A standard contract or tariff providing for group net
36 metering, which shall not affect the rate classes for
37 customers who participate in group net metering; and
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39 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that electric utility companies are
40 requested to provide group net metering at the request of an
41 eligible customer generator; and



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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 2 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the
 3 Public Utilities Commission, the Presidents of Hawaiian Electric
 4 Company, Inc., Maui Electric Company Ltd., and Hawaii Electric
 5 Light Company, Inc., and the Chairperson of the Board of Kauai
 6 Island Utility Cooperative.

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