
HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE GOVERNOR TO ENGAGE AND WORK WITH LANAI, MOLOKAI,
AND THE OTHER NEIGHBOR ISLAND COMMUNITIES WHEN FORMULATING
ENERGY POLICY AND IDENTIFYING ENERGY PROJECTS FOR THE STATE
OF HAWAII.

1 WHEREAS, the construction and operation of an interisland
2 high-voltage undersea electric transmission cable system has the
3 potential to improve the distribution of electricity and power
4 throughout the State; and
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6 WHEREAS, Act 165, Session Laws of Hawaii 2012, authorized
7 the construction and development of an interisland high-voltage
8 undersea electric transmission cable system to link the
9 electricity consumers of the island of Oahu to the wind energy
10 generation facilities located on other islands of the State; and
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12 WHEREAS, although the development of the interisland high-
13 voltage undersea electric transmission cable system is
14 innovative and seemingly attractive, the placement of wind
15 energy generation facilities near communities throughout the
16 State could have a profoundly negative impact on the communities
17 surrounding the facilities; and
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19 WHEREAS, wind turbines affect the beauty of the landscape,
20 create noise pollution, impede subsistence hunting, gathering,
21 and fishing, and pose potential risks for those who live nearby;
22 and
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24 WHEREAS, residents and community groups on Molokai and
25 Lanai have strongly opposed the construction of wind energy
26 generation facilities on those islands; and
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28 WHEREAS, Act 165, Session Laws of Hawaii 2012, authorizes a
29 regulatory structure for the construction of the interisland
30 high-voltage undersea electric transmission cable system, but
31 does not require the construction of the system; and
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1 WHEREAS, the community on the island of Molokai has already
2 begun working together with the State on an island-specific
3 alternative plan to develop local renewable energy that will be
4 less disruptive to the environment and the community; and
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6 WHEREAS, energy projects face much less community
7 opposition, delay, and legal challenges when the community is
8 engaged early and is given the opportunity to work together with
9 the State and energy partners; now, therefore,
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11 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
12 Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
13 Session of 2013, that the Governor is requested to engage and
14 work with Lanai, Molokai, and the other neighbor island
15 communities when formulating energy policy and identifying
16 energy projects for the State of Hawaii; and
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18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
19 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Chairperson of the
20 Public Utilities Commission, Mayor of each county, Executive
21 Director of I Aloha Molokai, Friends of Lanai, Lanaians for
22 Sensible Growth, Kupaa No Lanai, and Lanai Cultural and Heritage
23 Center.

