
HOUSE RESOLUTION

URGING THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION TO ESTABLISH REDUCED
TARIFFS FOR THE SALE OF ELECTRICITY GENERATED BY NONFOSSIL
FUEL PRODUCERS THAT ELECTRIC UTILITIES WOULD OTHERWISE
CURTAIL DURING OFF-PEAK HOURS TO PERSONS ENGAGED IN
AQUACULTURE, AQUAPONICS, AND AGRICULTURE.

1 WHEREAS, the State of Hawaii recognizes the importance of a
2 self-sufficient and sustainable economy; and
3

4 WHEREAS, approximately ninety per cent of all food consumed
5 in Hawaii is imported; and
6

7 WHEREAS, although agricultural products are grown in
8 Hawaii, the welfare of Hawaii's people would be enhanced by
9 developing agricultural production and processing as fully as
10 possible, including the growing and processing of agricultural
11 crops and the production of livestock, poultry, and other
12 agricultural products; and
13

14 WHEREAS, as part of the Hawaii Clean Energy Initiative and
15 in close cooperation with the United States Department of
16 Energy, Hawaii has undertaken pioneering efforts to develop its
17 own indigenous renewable energy resources for the production of
18 electricity throughout the State, thus reducing the need to
19 import expensive fossil fuels and the State's vulnerability to
20 disruptions in the supply of energy sources; and
21

22 WHEREAS, notwithstanding the development of renewable
23 energy resources, the electric utilities in Hawaii do not fully
24 utilize the renewable energy, because the utilities significantly
25 curtail its use during off-peak hours, thus resulting in excess
26 energy production; and
27

28 WHEREAS, persons engaged in agricultural production,
29 including the production of livestock and poultry, have been
30 adversely affected by rising electricity rates that increase the
31 costs of agricultural production and ultimately detrimentally
32 impact the people of Hawaii; and
33



1 WHEREAS, if the excess renewable energy resulting from the
2 curtailing by the electric utilities during off-peak hours were
3 made available for purchase by persons engaged in agricultural
4 production under a reduced tariff or reduced electricity rate,
5 the excess energy would be consumed to the benefit of all
6 parties involved; and

7
8 WHEREAS, in such a case, the following benefits would be
9 realized:

- 10
11 (1) Persons engaged in agricultural production would
12 receive electricity at reduced rates during off-peak
13 hours, thereby enhancing agricultural production;
14
15 (2) Electric utilities would have a customer base of
16 persons engaged in agricultural production and would
17 be able to minimize the need to curtail excess
18 renewable energy;
19
20 (3) Nonfossil fuel producers would be able to avoid
21 curtailment and could continue to generate electricity
22 and be paid for it;
23
24 (4) Consumers would benefit from having a strong and
25 sustainable agricultural sector to provide Hawaii-
26 grown food, including livestock and poultry; and
27
28 (5) The State would reduce its reliance on imported fossil
29 fuels and strengthen Hawaii's indigenous renewable
30 energy resources; now, therefore,

31
32 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
33 Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
34 Session of 2013, that the Public Utilities Commission is urged
35 to establish, in cooperation with Hawaii's regulated electric
36 utilities, reduced tariffs for the sale of electricity
37 generated by nonfossil fuel producers that the utilities would
38 otherwise curtail during off-peak hours to persons engaged in
39 aquaculture, aquaponics, and agriculture, including the growing
40 and processing of agricultural crops and the production of
41 livestock, poultry, and other agricultural products; and

42
43 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Public Utilities Commission
44 is requested to submit a report on the establishment of the



1 reduced tariff to the Legislature no later than twenty days
2 prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2014; and
3

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
5 Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the Public
6 Utilities Commission; Director of the Division of Consumer
7 Advocacy, Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs;
8 Chairperson of the Board of Agriculture; Director of Business,
9 Economic Development, and Tourism; Director of Health; Mayor of
10 the County of Hawaii; Mayor of the County of Maui; Mayor of the
11 City and County of Honolulu; Mayor of the County of Kauai;
12 President of Hawaii Electric Light Company, Inc.; President of
13 Maui Electric Company, Ltd.; President of Hawaiian Electric
14 Company, Inc.; President of Kauai Island Utility Cooperative;
15 Chairperson of the Board of Directors of the Chamber of Commerce
16 of Hawaii; President of the Board of Directors of the Hawaii
17 Farm Bureau Federation; and the Commander of the United States
18 Pacific Command.

19
20
21

OFFERED BY:

James Wood
[Signature]

MAR 07 2013

