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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO ELECTRIC SYSTEMS.

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

1           SECTION 1. Hawaii's progress toward the widespread use of  
2 renewable energy requires modernized electrical infrastructure  
3 supported by nimble, robust technology capable of servicing the  
4 evolving needs of the grid. Advanced grid modernization  
5 technology offers numerous benefits in the face of heavy  
6 renewable energy penetration that include increased electrical  
7 system reliability and operational efficiency from enhanced  
8 system responsiveness and interoperability at the transmission  
9 level and below, as well as improved customer energy efficiency  
10 practices encouraged by the availability of timely end use  
11 energy information. In addition, the increased scale, speed,  
12 and accuracy of the information provided by advanced grid  
13 infrastructure systems can better support initiatives to reduce  
14 the State's petroleum dependence, such as increased distributed  
15 generation and demand response programs. Electricity providers  
16 on Maui and Kauai have already begun deploying advanced  
17 residential metering technology with the support of substantial  
18 federal funding, but the State lacks a unifying policy for the



1 implementation of advanced grid modernization technology. The  
2 State's achievements in strengthening the Hawaii electric  
3 system, including the continued development and potential  
4 delivery of increased renewable energy resources across the  
5 islands, as well as the ongoing creation of transparent,  
6 effective system rules, must be accompanied by policies for  
7 comprehensive enhancement of all aspects of the system,  
8 including the implementation of advanced grid modernization  
9 technology.

10 The purpose of this Act is to establish a policy for the  
11 State of Hawaii in support of the implementation of advanced  
12 grid modernization technology.

13 SECTION 2. Chapter 269, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
14 amended by adding a new section to part IX to be appropriately  
15 designated and to read as follows:

16 "§269- Advanced grid modernization technology;  
17 principles. The public utilities commission, in carrying out  
18 its responsibilities under this chapter, shall consider the  
19 value of improving electrical generation, transmission, and  
20 distribution systems and infrastructure within the State through  
21 the use of advanced grid modernization technology in order to



1 improve the overall reliability and operational efficiency of  
2 the Hawaii electric system."

3 SECTION 3. Section 269-141, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
4 amended by adding a new definition to be appropriately inserted  
5 and to read as follows:

6 "Advanced grid modernization technology" means equipment,  
7 facilities, and associated processes that individually or  
8 collectively function to improve the reliability, resiliency,  
9 flexibility, and efficiency of the Hawaii electric system by  
10 providing functional characteristics that improve the  
11 operational capability of the Hawaii electric system, including  
12 the automatic restoration of electrical service in response to  
13 power disturbance events, greater participation in utility  
14 customer programs, resilient operation against both physical and  
15 cyber-based attacks, the ability to satisfy power quality  
16 requirements of new technologies and end users, accommodation of  
17 energy generation and storage choices, utilization of innovative  
18 products and services in electricity markets, the improvement of  
19 customer energy efficiency practices encouraged by the  
20 availability of timely energy use information, and optimization  
21 of assets and improving the operational efficiency of the Hawaii  
22 electric system."



- 1 SECTION 4. New statutory material is underscored.
- 2 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.



**Report Title:**

Grid Infrastructure Modernization Technology; Electric Utilities; Electric Systems; Public Utilities Commission

**Description:**

Authorizes the Public Utilities Commission to consider the value of implementing advanced grid modernization technology in the State. (HB810 HD1)

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

