
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO ENERGY.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that Hawaii's dependency
2 on imported fossil fuels drains the State's economy of billions
3 of dollars each year. A stronger local economy depends on a
4 transition away from imported fossil fuel powered ground
5 transportation and toward multi-modal transportation systems
6 powered by renewable local energy resources.

7 The legislature also finds that climate change caused by
8 greenhouse gas emissions from burning fossil fuels poses a
9 serious threat to the economic well-being, public health,
10 natural resources, and the environment of Hawaii. The potential
11 adverse impacts of climate change include the exacerbation of
12 air quality problems, a reduction in the quality and supply of
13 water, a rise in sea levels resulting in the displacement of
14 coastal businesses and residences, damage to marine ecosystems
15 and the natural environment, and an increase in the incidences
16 of infectious diseases, asthma, and other human health-related
17 problems.



1 The legislature further finds that climate change will have
2 detrimental effects on some of Hawaii's largest industries,
3 including tourism, agriculture, and recreational and commercial
4 fishing. It will also increase the strain on electricity
5 supplies necessary to meet the increased demand for air-
6 conditioning in the state.

7 The purpose of this Act is to establish a transitional
8 energy working group to be administratively placed within the
9 department of business, economic development, and tourism, to
10 lay the foundation for future renewable energy development that
11 transitions the State away from fossil fuels and to one hundred
12 per cent clean electricity in general, beginning with the
13 transportation sector.

14 SECTION 2. (a) There is established a transitional energy
15 working group to be administratively placed within the
16 department of business, economic development, and tourism. The
17 director of business, economic development, and tourism or the
18 director's designee shall serve as the chair of the working
19 group.

20 (b) Members of the working group shall include
21 transportation stakeholders, as selected by the director of



1 business, economic development, and tourism; provided that the
2 director of transportation or the director's designee shall be
3 an ex officio member; provided further that a representative of
4 the Blue Planet Foundation shall serve as a member.

5 (c) The transitional energy working group shall endeavor
6 to lay the foundation for future renewable energy development
7 that transitions the State away from fossil fuels and to one
8 hundred per cent clean electricity in general, beginning with
9 the transportation sector. The transitional energy working
10 group shall consider, at minimum, the following issues:

- 11 (1) Increasing the curtailment of electricity use;
- 12 (2) Increasing peak time electricity shaving;
- 13 (3) Increasing the prevalence of solar energy storage
14 systems, including storage for photovoltaic energy;
- 15 (4) Eliminating petroleum as fuel for ground
16 transportation, as well as a plan and a timetable for
17 the department of transportation to implement the use
18 of alternative energy for its fleet of vehicles;
19 provided that the working group shall consider a
20 cost/benefit analysis and review driving policies and



- 1 infrastructure requirements to determine reasonable
2 targets and timeframes; and
- 3 (5) The feasibility of achieving one hundred per cent
4 renewable portfolio standards by December 31, 2045,
5 including a determination of the requirements to
6 achieve that goal, as well as a plan and timetable for
7 achieving that goal.
- 8 (d) The transitional energy working group may review and
9 update any past reports or studies from relevant task forces,
10 including the refineries task force and transportation energy
11 analysis report.
- 12 (e) Members of the transitional energy working group shall
13 serve without compensation but shall be reimbursed for necessary
14 expenses, including travel expenses, necessary for the
15 performance of their duties.
- 16 (f) The transitional energy working group shall report to
17 the legislature on its findings and recommendations, including
18 any proposed legislation, as follows:
- 19 (1) A preliminary report no later than January 15, 2017;
20 and
21 (2) A final report no later than January 15, 2018;



1 (g) The transitional energy working group shall cease to
2 exist on the day after filing its final report.

3 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2016.

4



Report Title:

Transitional Energy Working Group

Description:

Establishes the transitional energy working group within DBEDT to lay the foundation for future renewable energy development that transitions the State away from fossil fuels and to one hundred per cent clean electricity in general, beginning with the transportation sector. Requires a report to the Legislature. (SD1)

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