

JAN 17 2020

---

---

# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATED TO RENEWABLE ENERGY.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that Hawaii ranks third  
2 in the United States for solar power generation per capita. In  
3 addition to exporting electricity generated by customers to the  
4 electricity grid, Hawaii can create a more comprehensive and  
5 long-term solution that solves the problem of excess electricity  
6 generation during daylight hours. Solar power will be key to  
7 achieving the State's goal of generating one hundred per cent of  
8 the State's electricity from renewable energy sources by 2045.  
9 However, Hawaii residents and businesses are installing solar  
10 panels each year, in part due to public utilities commission  
11 policies.

12           The legislature also finds that energy storage is one  
13 solution to the problem of excess electricity generation during  
14 daylight hours. However, energy storage is usually expensive  
15 and limited in capacity. A second solution is to sell excess  
16 electricity to consumers such as computer companies or  
17 agricultural growers during daylight hours at the net cost to



1 the electric utility. The sale of excess electricity from the  
2 grid to consumers at net cost is known as "smart imports."

3 The legislature further finds that smart imports can reduce  
4 electricity rates and effectively use the abundance of solar  
5 power during daylight hours. This can help more Hawaii  
6 residents and businesses transition to using electric vehicles  
7 through low or no-cost charging during daylight. Smart imports  
8 can significantly boost the solar, battery storage, and electric  
9 vehicle industries.

10 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to require electric  
11 utilities to offer excess electricity during daylight hours at  
12 cost to consumers to help create a more sustainable Hawaii.

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

16 "§269- Smart imports; solar energy; excess electricity.

17 (a) Beginning January 1, 2022, electric utilities shall offer  
18 excess electricity to consumers during daylight hours at cost  
19 for any legal purpose.

20 (b) For purposes of this section:



# S.B. NO. 2749

1        "At cost" means the net cost to the electric utility of  
2 electricity. "At cost" may be zero or less than zero.

3        "Smart imports" means the sale of excess electricity from  
4 electric utilities to consumers."

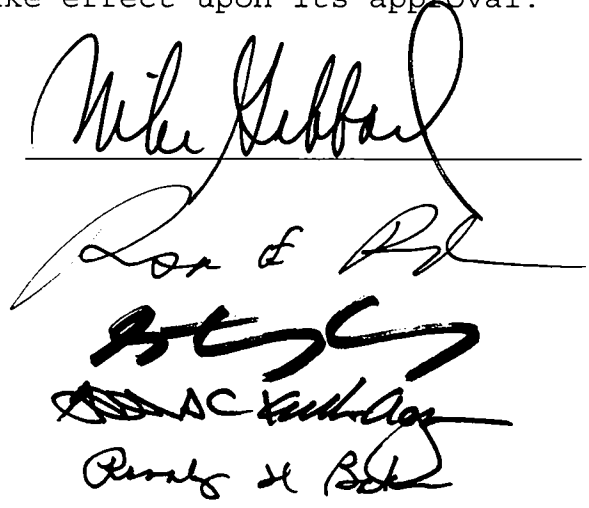
5        SECTION 3. The public utilities commission shall initiate  
6 a proceeding to study other states' smart imports programs,  
7 solar and energy storage solutions, and related solutions to  
8 excess electricity generation and propose a "smart imports  
9 program" in Hawaii to be implemented no later than January 1,  
10 2022. The public utilities commission shall submit a report of  
11 its findings and recommendations, including any proposed  
12 legislation, to the legislature no later than twenty days prior  
13 to the convening of the regular session of 2021.

14        SECTION 4. New statutory material is underscored.

15        SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

16

INTRODUCED BY:

  
Mike Hibbard  
Ron & Bob  
AC  
Ron & Bob



# S.B. NO. 2749

**Report Title:**

PUC; Smart Imports; Excess Electricity; Solar Energy

**Description:**

Requires the Public Utilities Commission to study and recommend how to implement a smart imports program in Hawaii. Requires electric utilities to offer excess electricity to consumers during daylight hours at cost for any legal purpose beginning 1/1/2022.

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

