

MAR 0 6 2020

SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION TO CONDUCT A STUDY ON
THE FEASIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING PREFERENTIAL RATES FOR
RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES THAT ARE LOCATED NEAR A RENEWABLE
ENERGY FACILITY.

1 WHEREAS, the State's dependence on imported fuel hinders
2 the State's economy and drains the economy of billions of
3 dollars each year; and
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5 WHEREAS, in order to decrease the State's dependence on
6 imported fossil fuels, the Legislature enacted Act 97, Session
7 Laws of Hawaii 2015, which requires all electric utility
8 companies to establish a renewable energy portfolio standard of
9 one hundred percent of its net electricity sales by 2045; and
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11 WHEREAS, as a result, the State is transitioning to various
12 renewable energy sources as a means to expand and diversify the
13 State's economy, environment, and security; and
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15 WHEREAS, the State has been implementing multiple projects
16 throughout the State that utilize different sources of renewable
17 energy in order to meet the ambitious energy goals by 2045; and
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19 WHEREAS, recently, the State has been focusing on the
20 development of facilities relating to the renewable energy
21 sources of wind, solar, geothermal, biomass, and hydropower; and
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23 WHEREAS, however, there is increasing opposition to the
24 development of large, renewable energy facilities near
25 residential properties; and
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27 WHEREAS, while renewable energy facilities are a valuable
28 source of renewable energy, there are many unintended
29 consequences that raise concerns with residents who would be in
30 close proximity to a renewable energy facility; and
31

32 WHEREAS, residential communities that are near a renewable
33 energy facility are often subject to various negative effects,



S.R. NO. 99

1 including excessive noise levels and possible health concerns;
2 and

3
4 WHEREAS, residential communities near a renewable energy
5 facility are often burdened by being close to the facilities,
6 yet seldom receive direct benefits that offset the potential
7 risks of living near a renewable energy facility; now,
8 therefore,

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10 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirtieth Legislature
11 of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2020, that the Public
12 Utilities Commission is requested to conduct a study on the
13 feasibility of establishing preferential rates for residential
14 properties that are located near a renewable energy facility;
15 and

16
17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in conducting the study, the
18 Public Utilities Commission is requested to look at possible
19 rate structures and an appropriate radius of residential
20 properties in relation to a renewable energy facility; and

21
22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this
23 Resolution be transmitted to the Chair of the Public Utilities
24 Commission.

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OFFERED BY: *Juanita R. Inoué*

Ron E. B...

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