

ACT 163

H.B. NO. 2848

A Bill for an Act Relating to Energy.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Hawaii:

SECTION 1. In May 2002, the University of Hawaii gathered major energy and policy stakeholders in Hawaii to convene as the Hawaii energy policy forum. The purpose of the policy forum was to develop an energy vision for Hawaii through the year 2030 and to formulate strategies consistent with implementing that vision. Accordingly, facilitated discussions were conducted on Hawaii's preferred energy future and the issues and constraints that would be encountered in achieving that preferred future. Incorporating a science- and fact-based approach, policy studies were conducted to provide baseline information and review of various environmental, regulatory, economic, social, and cultural issues relating to Hawaii's energy future.

In December 2003, the policy forum convened a policy summit to provide a community-based forum for review of its work and recommendations. The final report of the policy forum, "Hawaii at the Crossroads: A Long Term Energy Strategy," sets forth recommended guiding principles and policy options to meet Hawaii's long term energy needs.

The purpose of this Act is to:

- (1) Appropriate funds to reconvene the policy forum for the purpose of implementing the vision, concepts, and recommendations of the policy forum's final report, and the resulting "Ten Point Plan" to meet Hawaii's energy goals. This will provide a unique opportunity for

stakeholders to continue their work from planning to implementation and for further engagement of policy- and decision-makers and consumers on issues relevant to creating Hawaii's preferred energy future; and

- (2) Assess the feasibility of the State becoming a participant in the Chicago Climate Exchange.

SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$200,000 or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2006-2007 to reconvene the Hawaii energy policy forum for the purpose of:

- (1) Developing a detailed action plan and timeline to implement the recommendations of the Hawaii energy policy forum's "Ten Point Plan" to meet Hawaii's energy goals;
- (2) Developing tangible goals, objectives, desired outcomes, and actions to implement the energy vision and strategy of the Hawaii energy policy forum;
- (3) Developing benchmarks for measuring outcomes of energy implementation strategies;
- (4) Further engaging Hawaii's business, government, labor, and community leaders and integrating them into the policy activities and discussions of the Hawaii energy policy forum;
- (5) Assessing the feasibility of the State becoming a participant in the Chicago Climate Exchange, specifically examining the advantages and risks in terms of advancing Hawaii's development and use of renewable energy;
- (6) Developing greater community and public awareness about Hawaii's energy needs and the goals and activities of the Hawaii energy policy forum; and
- (7) Seeking additional funding for statewide implementation of, and public education regarding, the recommendations and goals of the Hawaii energy policy forum.

The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of business, economic development, and tourism for the Hawaii energy policy forum administered by the social sciences public policy center, University of Hawaii at Manoa, to implement the purposes of this Act.

SECTION 3. The Hawaii energy policy forum shall submit a report on the detailed action plan and timeline to the legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the regular session of 2007.

SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2006.

(Approved June 2, 2006.)