

ACT 55

S.B. NO. 2537

A Bill for an Act Relating to Energy.

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

SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the purpose of Act 122, Session Laws of Hawaii 2019 (Act 122), was to transfer the duties and responsibilities of the state energy resources coordinator, the functions of the renewable energy facilitator, and the then existing state energy office to a newly created Hawaii state energy office and chief energy officer. However, Act 122 did not amend certain sections of the Hawaii Revised Statutes pertaining to the reporting of certain energy matters to the legislature.

Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to amend those sections to clarify that the chief energy officer of the Hawaii state energy office is responsible for supporting the renewable portfolio standards and reporting on certain energy matters.

SECTION 2. Section 196-10.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by amending subsection (c) to read as follows:

“(c) The ~~[department of business, economic development, and tourism]~~ chief energy officer shall submit a report to the legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of each regular session on the status and progress of new and existing clean energy initiatives. The report shall also include:

- (1) The spending plan of the Hawaii clean energy initiative program;
- (2) All expenditures of energy security special fund moneys; and
- (3) The targeted markets of the expenditures, including reasons for selecting those markets, the persons to be served, specific objectives of the program, and program expenditures, including measurable outcomes.”

SECTION 3. Section 196-41, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by amending subsection (c) to read as follows:

“(c) The ~~[department of business, economic development, and tourism]~~ chief energy officer shall:

- (1) Develop a program to maximize the use of renewable energy and cost-effective conservation measures by state government agencies;

ACT 55

- (2) Work with federal agencies to develop as much research, development and demonstration funding, and technical assistance as possible to support Hawaii in its efforts to achieve its renewable portfolio standards; and
- (3) Biennially, beginning in January 2006, issue a progress report to the governor and legislature.”

SECTION 4. Section 201-12.8, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by amending subsection (c) to read as follows:

“(c) The [~~department of business, economic development, and tourism~~] chief energy officer shall submit a report to the legislature, no later than twenty days prior to the convening of each regular session, on the status and progress of existing programs and activities and the status of new programs and activities funded by the energy security special fund. The report shall also include:

- (1) The spending plan of the energy security special fund;
- (2) All expenditures of energy security special fund moneys; and
- (3) The targeted markets of the expenditures, including the reason for selecting those markets; the persons to be served; and the specific objectives of the expenditures, including measurable outcomes.”

SECTION 5. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

(Approved June 20, 2024.)