

JAN 20 2023

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO RENEWABLE ENERGY.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that section 269-92,
2 Hawaii Revised Statutes, requires each utility company that
3 sells electricity for consumption in the State to establish a
4 renewable energy portfolio standard of one hundred per cent of
5 its net electricity generation by December 31, 2045.

6 The legislature also finds that section 225P-5, Hawaii
7 Revised Statutes, establishes a zero emissions clean economy
8 target to sequester more atmospheric carbon and greenhouse gases
9 than emitted within the State as quickly as practicable, but no
10 later than 2045.

11 The legislature finds that no comprehensive strategic plan
12 currently exists for the attainment of either of these goals and
13 that the continued installation of variable renewable sources,
14 such as solar and wind, is not dependable in the event of
15 adverse weather conditions.

16 The legislature further finds that the Hawaii state energy
17 office is most suited to take on the task of working with the



1 legislature; office of the governor; public utilities
2 commission; and Hawaii's energy and broader stakeholders to
3 envision and explain how Hawaii's several related statutes
4 regarding renewable energy, energy efficiency, dependability,
5 and zero emissions clean economy targets will be synthesized and
6 achieved.

7 The purpose of this Act is to require the Hawaii state
8 energy office to conduct a feasibility study and develop a
9 strategic plan that outlines benchmarks to meet the requirements
10 of section 269-92, Hawaii Revised Statutes, in establishing a
11 dependable one hundred per cent renewable energy portfolio
12 standard.

13 SECTION 2. (a) The Hawaii state energy office shall
14 conduct a feasibility study on the State's ability to achieve
15 its goal of producing one hundred per cent of the State's
16 electricity from renewable energy sources by December 31, 2045;
17 provided that if the current renewable energy standards are not
18 achievable, the study shall estimate the percentage that is
19 realistically achievable by December 31, 2045.

20 (b) The Hawaii state energy office shall submit a report
21 of its findings and recommendations, including any proposed



1 legislation, to the legislature no later than twenty days prior
2 to the convening of the regular session of 2024.

3 SECTION 3. (a) The Hawaii state energy office shall
4 establish a strategic plan that identifies clear benchmarks to:

5 (1) Attain the goal of one hundred per cent energy self-
6 sufficiency by December 31, 2045, including the
7 temporary use of alternative fuels that may be used as
8 bridge fuels;

9 (2) Provide clarity for utilities, utility-scale
10 developers, and energy distributors for achieving the
11 benchmarks described in paragraph (1); and

12 (3) Provide guidance for utilities distributors for the
13 acquisition, timing, size, and duration of firm
14 renewable generation to back up disruptions of
15 variable renewable sources.

16 (b) The strategic plan shall identify benchmarks that are
17 quantitatively and qualitatively measurable and metrics to
18 determine progress toward attaining the goal of one hundred per
19 cent energy self-sufficiency by December 31, 2045; provided that
20 the strategic plan shall include the capability to provide



1 electric service under diminished production of variable
2 renewable sources.

3 (c) The strategic plan shall contain a meteorological
4 forecast of the probable weather events that can be expected to
5 affect the State in the next one hundred years that accounts for
6 the forecasts caused by climate change; provided that the Hawaii
7 state energy office shall engage with the University of Hawaii
8 and outside consultants as necessary to produce the
9 meteorological forecast. The strategic plan shall recommend the
10 most likely disruption scenarios, including hurricanes, and the
11 most likely levels of disruption caused, in a form that will
12 allow the public utilities commission and the electric utilities
13 to plan to have an alternate renewable generation capacity
14 available on a timely basis.

15 (d) The Hawaii state energy office shall submit its
16 strategic plan, including proposed strategies, benchmarks, and
17 metrics, and any proposed legislation, to the legislature no
18 later than twenty days prior to the convening of the regular
19 session of 2024.



S.B. NO. 661

1 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2023.

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INTRODUCED BY: 



S.B. NO. 661

Report Title:

Energy; Renewable Energy; Feasibility Study; Strategic Plan; Renewable Dependability; Hawaii State Energy Office; Meteorological Forecast; University of Hawaii; Report

Description:

Requires the Hawaii State Energy Office to conduct a feasibility study on the State's ability to achieve its renewable energy goals by 2045 and to submit its findings and recommendations to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2024. Requires the Hawaii State Energy Office to develop a strategic plan that outlines benchmarks to achieve a one hundred per cent renewable energy portfolio standard and to submit the strategic plan to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2024.

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

