

MAR 14 2007

SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DIRECTOR OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND
TOURISM TO DRAFT PROPOSED LEGISLATION TO CREATE AN OFFICE
OF ENERGY.

1 WHEREAS, the Legislature finds that the global demand for
2 petroleum and its derivatives has caused severe economic
3 hardships throughout the State and threatens to impair the
4 public health, safety, and welfare; and

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6 WHEREAS, the State of Hawaii, with its dependence on
7 imported fossil fuel, is particularly vulnerable to dislocations
8 in the global energy market; and

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10 WHEREAS, there is a need for strategic comprehensive
11 planning in the effort towards achieving full utilization of
12 Hawaii's energy resource programs and the most effective
13 allocation of energy resources throughout the State; and

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15 WHEREAS, planning is necessary in order that the State may
16 recognize and address the major problems and opportunities in
17 the field of energy resources and will identify present
18 conditions and major problems relating to energy resources; and

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20 WHEREAS, there are many agencies of the federal, state, and
21 county governments in Hawaii, as well as many private agencies,
22 engaged in, or expressing an interest in various aspects of the
23 exploration, research, distribution, conservation, and
24 production of all forms of energy resources in Hawaii; and

25
26 WHEREAS, there is an immediate need to coordinate the
27 efforts of all these agencies to establish and coordinate
28 programs so that there will be maximum conservation and
29 utilization of energy resources in the State; now, therefore,

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31 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fourth
32 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2007,
33 that proposed legislation be prepared by the Director of
34 Business, Economic Development, and Tourism to establish an



1 Office of Energy within the Department of Business, Economic
2 Development, and Tourism; and

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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the proposed legislation
5 include provisions that the Office of Energy be established to
6 assist the Governor and the Director of Business, Economic
7 Development, and Tourism in maintaining an overall framework to
8 guide the development of the State through a continuous process
9 of comprehensive, long-range, and strategic planning to meet the
10 needs of Hawaii's people, and provide for the wise use of
11 Hawaii's resources in a coordinated, efficient, and economical
12 manner; and

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14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the proposed legislation
15 include provisions that the head of the Energy Office possess
16 the following experience:

- 17
18 (1) Training in the field of energy resources, public
19 administration, or other related fields;
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21 (2) Experience in programs or services related to energy
22 resources and resource coordination; and
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24 (3) Experience in a supervisory, consultative, or
25 administrative capacity; and

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27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the proposed legislation
28 include the following language requiring that the head of the
29 Office of Energy:

- 30
31 (1) Be nominated by the Governor and, with the advice and
32 consent of the Senate, appointed by the Governor;
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34 (2) Be compensated at a salary level set by the Governor;
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36 (3) Hold office for a term to expire at the end of the
37 term for which the Governor who appointed the Office
38 of Energy head was elected;
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40 (4) Be included in any benefit program generally
41 applicable to the officers and employees of the State;
42
43 (5) Retain staff as may be necessary and in conformity
44 with chapter 76, Hawaii Revised Statutes; and



1
2 (6) Report to the Director of Business, Economic
3 Development, and Tourism and not to any other principal
4 executive department; and
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6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the proposed legislation
7 require the Office of Energy to:
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- 9 (1) Formulate plans and financial requirements for the
10 optimum development of Hawaii's energy resources;
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12 (2) Develop a strategic comprehensive plan in the effort
13 to achieve full utilization of Hawaii's energy
14 resource programs;
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16 (3) Conduct, collect, and disseminate research and
17 statistics on the energy trends and developments;
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19 (4) Develop benchmarks for energy resource development and
20 policy-making;
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22 (5) Conduct systematic analysis of existing and proposed
23 energy resource programs;
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25 (6) Formulate and recommend specific proposals for
26 conserving energy and fuel;
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28 (7) Assist public and private agencies in implementing
29 energy conservation;
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31 (8) Coordinate the State's energy conservation and
32 allocation programs with that of other state
33 governments and governments of other nations;
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35 (9) Develop programs to encourage private and public
36 exploration and research of alternative energy
37 resources;
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39 (10) Conduct public education programs to inform the public
40 of an energy situation;
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42 (11) Serve as consultant to the Governor, public agencies,
43 and private industry on energy conservation;
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