
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO A BIOENERGY MASTER PLAN.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that significant steps
2 were taken during the 2006 legislative session to move Hawaii
3 towards a more sustainable energy future: renewable energy tax
4 credits were increased and made permanent, programs for
5 renewable hydrogen and solar water heating were established, and
6 energy efficiency measures are now required to be considered by
7 state agencies. A biofuel preference for state agencies was
8 also established as well as a mandate requiring twenty per cent
9 of highway fuels be comprised of alternate fuels by the year
10 2020.

11 The legislature also finds that Hawaii should further
12 diversify its energy system and reduce its dependence on
13 imported petroleum by introducing bioenergy resources into the
14 overall energy system.

15 In response to this desire to diversify Hawaii's energy
16 system, a biofuels summit and a bioenergy workshop were held
17 during 2006 to explore the potential for a domestic bioenergy



1 and biofuels future. Both resulted in the realization that
2 initiating a bioenergy industry in Hawaii must first address a
3 diverse and very complex set of issues that involves many public
4 and private stakeholders.

5 The purpose of this Act is to create a bioenergy master
6 plan task force that is charged with developing a bioenergy
7 master plan for Hawaii. This master plan will set the course
8 for the coordination and implementation of policies and
9 procedures to develop a bioenergy industry in Hawaii.

10 SECTION 2. (a) There is established in the department of
11 business, economic development, and tourism, a temporary
12 bioenergy master plan task force. The department shall be
13 responsible for administering the work of the temporary task
14 force, providing a facilitator, and submitting reports to the
15 legislature. The goal of the temporary task force shall be to
16 develop a bioenergy master plan for the State that addresses:

- 17 (1) Specific objectives, milestones, and timelines;
- 18 (2) Water resources;
- 19 (3) Land resources;
- 20 (4) Distribution infrastructure for both marine and land;
- 21 (5) Labor resources and issues;



- 1 (6) Technology to develop bioenergy feedstock and
- 2 biofuels;
- 3 (7) Permitting issues;
- 4 (8) Financial incentives and barriers and other funding
- 5 issues;
- 6 (9) Business partnering;
- 7 (10) Policy requirements necessary for implementation of
- 8 the master plan; and
- 9 (11) Identification and analysis of the impacts of
- 10 transitioning to a bioenergy economy.
- 11 (b) The members of the temporary task force shall include
- 12 the following:
- 13 (1) The director of business economic development, and
- 14 tourism, or the director's designee;
- 15 (2) The chair of the board of agriculture, or the chair's
- 16 designee;
- 17 (3) The chair of the board of land and natural resources,
- 18 or the chair's designee;
- 19 (4) The director of labor and industrial relations, or the
- 20 director's designee;
- 21 (5) The director of health, or the director's designee;



- 1 (6) The dean of the college of tropical agriculture and
- 2 human resources at the University of Hawaii, or the
- 3 dean's designee;
- 4 (7) The director of the Hawaii natural energy institute,
- 5 or the director's designee;
- 6 (8) The chair of the public utilities commission, or the
- 7 chair's designee;
- 8 (9) The state consumer advocate, or the consumer
- 9 advocate's designee;
- 10 (10) The chair of the Hawaii energy policy forum, or the
- 11 chair's designee;
- 12 (11) A representative from the United States Department of
- 13 Energy;
- 14 (12) A representative from the United States Department of
- 15 Agriculture;
- 16 (13) A representative from the petroleum industry;
- 17 (14) A representative from each of the State's electric
- 18 utilities;
- 19 (15) A representative from the Hawai'i Agricultural
- 20 Research Center; and
- 21 (16) A representative from the Hawai'i Farm Bureau
- 22 Federation.



1 (c) The bioenergy master plan task force may form
2 workgroups and subcommittees to:

3 (1) Obtain input from stakeholders, bioenergy
4 professionals, and any other individuals as may be
5 determined necessary by the task force; and

6 (2) Perform any other functions as may be deemed necessary
7 by the task force for the fulfillment of their
8 functions.

9 (d) Members of the bioenergy master plan task force shall
10 serve without compensation but shall be reimbursed for expenses,
11 including travel expenses, necessary for the performance of
12 their duties.

13 (e) The bioenergy master plan task force shall be exempt
14 from chapter 92, Hawaii Revised Statutes; provided that the task
15 force shall make a good faith effort to make its proceedings and
16 work products accessible and available to the general public in
17 a manner consistent with the intent of chapter 92, Hawaii
18 Revised Statutes.

19 (f) The bioenergy master plan task force shall be exempt
20 from the requirements of chapter 103D, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

21 (g) The bioenergy master plan task force shall submit an
22 interim report of its findings and recommendations, including



1 any proposed legislation, to the legislature no later than
 2 twenty days prior to the convening of the regular session of
 3 2008. The bioenergy master plan task force shall submit a final
 4 report of its findings and recommendations, including a final
 5 bioenergy master plan, as well as any proposed legislation, to
 6 the legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening
 7 of the regular session of 2009.

8 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
 9 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$200,000, or so much
 10 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2007-2008, and the
 11 same sum, or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year
 12 2008-2009 to support the operations of the bioenergy master plan
 13 task force.

14 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
 15 of business, economic development, and tourism for the purposes
 16 of this Act.

17 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2007.
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INTRODUCED BY: *Wenwei Zhou*
 Almond D. Smith III
 Guthrie Thelen
 JAN 19 2007



Report Title:

Bioenergy; Task Force; Sustainable Energy Future

Description:

Establishes a bioenergy master plan task force to develop and implement policies and procedures for a bioenergy industry in Hawaii. Makes appropriations.

