A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO ENERGY EFFICIENCY.

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

- 1 SECTION 1. The purpose of this Act is to clarify chapter
- 2 269, part VII, Hawaii Revised Statutes, relating to the
- 3 administration and use of moneys supporting energy-efficiency
- 4 and demand-side management programs and services.
- 5 SECTION 2. Chapter 269, part VII, Hawaii Revised Statutes,
- 6 is amended to read as follows:
- 7 "[+] PART VII. PUBLIC BENEFITS [FUND] FEE
- 8 [+] §269-121[+] Public benefits [fund;] fee authorization.
- 9 (a) The public utilities commission, by order or rule, may
- 10 [redirect] require that all or a portion of the [funds] moneys
- 11 collected by Hawaii's electric utilities from its ratepayers
- 12 through [the current] a demand-side management surcharge [by
- 13 Hawaii's electric utilities into a public benefits fund that may
- 14 be established by the public utilities commission.] be
- 15 transferred to a third-party administrator appointed by the
- 16 public utilities commission. The moneys transferred shall be
- 17 known as the public benefits fee.

1	(b) [If the public utilities commission establishes a				
2	public benefits fund, the surcharge shall be known as the public				
3	benefits fee. Moneys in the fund shall be ratepayer funds that				
4	The public benefits fee shall be used to support energy-				
5	efficiency and demand-side management programs and services,				
6	subject to the review and approval of the public utilities				
7	commission. These moneys shall not be available to meet any				
8	current or past general obligations of the State $[+]$; provided				
9	that the State may participate in any energy-efficiency or				
10	demand-side management programs and services on the same basis				
11	as any other electric consumer.				
12	(c) Nothing in this section shall create or be construed				
13	to cause the public benefits fee to be considered state or				
14	public moneys subject to appropriation by the legislature or be				
15	required to be deposited into the state treasury.				
16	[+] §269-122[+] Public benefits [fund] fee administrator;				
17	establishment. (a) [If the] The public utilities commission				
18	[establishes a public benefits fund, the public utilities				
19	commission shall appoint may contract with a [fund] third-party				
20	administrator, to be known as the public benefits fee				
21	administrator, on terms and conditions that it deems necessary				
22	to manage the public benefits fee moneys collected pursuant to				



- 1 section 269-121. The public benefits fee administrator shall
- 2 operate and [manage] administer any programs established under
- 3 section 269-121. The [fund] administrator shall not expend more
- 4 than ten per cent of the [fund] public benefits fee moneys in
- 5 any fiscal year, or other reasonable percentage determined by
- 6 the public utilities commission, for administration of the
- 7 programs established under section 269-121.
- **8** (b) The [fund] public benefits fee administrator shall be
- 9 subject to regulation by the public utilities commission[7
- 10 including pursuant to under any provision applicable to a
- 11 public utility in sections 269-7, 269-8, 269-8.2, 269-8.5, 269-
- 12 9, 269-10, 269-13, 269-15, 269-19.5, and 269-28, and shall
- 13 report to the public utilities commission on a regular basis.
- 14 Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the
- 15 [fund] public benefits fee administrator shall not be an
- 16 electric public utility or an electric public utility affiliate.
- [+] §269-123[+] Requirements for the public benefits [fund]
- 18 fee administrator. (a) Any [fund] public benefits fee
- 19 administrator appointed pursuant to section 269-122 shall
- 20 satisfy the qualification requirements established by the public
- 21 utilities commission by rule or order. These requirements may
- 22 include experience and expertise in:



1	(1)	Energy-efficient and renewable energy technologies and
2		methods; and
3	(2)	Identifying, developing, administering, and
4		implementing demand-side management and energy-
5		efficiency programs.
6	(b)	The [fund] public benefits fee administrator's duties
7	and respon	nsibilities shall be established by the public
8	utilities	commission by rule or order, and may include:
9	(1)	Identifying, developing, administering, promoting,
10		implementing, and evaluating programs, methods, and
11		technologies that support energy-efficiency and
12		demand-side management programs;
13	(2)	Encouraging the continuance or improvement of
14		efficiencies made in the production, delivery, and use
15		of energy-efficiency and demand-side management
16		programs and services;
17	(3)	Using the energy-efficiency expertise and capabilities
18		that have developed or may develop in the State and
19		consulting with state agency experts;
20	(4)	Promoting program initiatives, incentives, and market
21		strategies that address the needs of persons facing

the most significant barriers to participation;

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1	(5)	Promoting coordinated program delivery, including
2		coordination with electric public utilities regarding
3		the delivery of low-income home energy assistance,
4		other demand-side management or energy-efficiency
5		programs, and any utility programs;
6	(6)	Consideration of innovative approaches to delivering
7		demand-side management and energy-efficiency services,
8		including strategies to encourage [third party] third-
9		party financing and customer contributions to the cost
10		of demand-side management and energy-efficiency
11		services; and
12	(7)	Submitting, to the public utilities commission for
13		review and approval, a multi-year budget and planning
14		cycle that promotes program improvement, program
15		stability, and maturation of programs and delivery
16		resources.
17	[+] §	269-124[+] Transitioning from utility demand-side
18	managemen	t programs to the public benefits [fund.] fee. If the
19	public ut	ilities commission establishes a public benefits [fund]
20	fee pursu	ant to section 269-121, the public utilities commission

22 (1) Develop a transition plan that ensures that:



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shall:

1		(A) Utility demand-side management programs are
2		continued, to the extent practicable, until the
3		transition date; and
4,		(B) The [fund] public benefits fee administrator will
5		be able to provide demand-side management and
6		energy-efficiency services on the transition
7		date;
8	(2)	Encourage programs that allow all retail electricity
9		customers, including state and county agencies,
10		regardless of the retail electricity or gas provider,
11		to have an opportunity to participate in and benefit
12		from a comprehensive set of cost-effective demand-side
13		management and energy-efficiency programs and
14	·	initiatives designed to overcome barriers to
15		participation;
16	(3)	Encourage programs, measures, and delivery mechanisms
17		that reasonably reflect current and projected utility
18		integrated resource planning, market conditions,
19		technological options, and environmental benefits;
20	(4)	Facilitate the delivery of these programs as rapidly
21		as possible, taking into consideration the need for
22		these services and cost-effective delivery mechanisms;

(5)	Consider the unique geographic location of the State
	and the high costs of energy in developing programs
	that will promote technologies to advance energy
	efficiency and use of renewable energy and permit the
	State to take advantage of activities undertaken in
	other states, including the opportunity for multi-
	state programs;

- (6) Require the [fund] public benefits fee administrator appointed by the public utilities commission under section 269-122 to deliver programs in an effective, efficient, timely, and competent manner and to meet standards that are consistent with state policy and public utilities commission policy; and
- thereafter, require verification by an independent auditor of the reported energy and capacity savings and incremental renewable energy production savings associated with the programs delivered by the [fund] public benefits fee administrator appointed by the public utilities commission to deliver energy-efficiency and demand-side management programs under section 269-121."

- 1 SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
- 2 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.
- 3 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

Report Title:

Energy Efficiency; Public Benefits

Description:

Clarifies provisions of chapter 269, part VII, Hawaii Revised Statutes, relating to the administration and use of moneys supporting energy-efficiency and demand-side management programs and services. (SB3001 HD1)