S.B. NO.2504

JAN 1 8 2008

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION.

2008-0194 SB SMA.doc

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

1 SECTION 1. In 2007, the Oregon legislature passed a 2 renewable energy package to reduce greenhouse gases. Pursuant 3 thereto, the Oregon department of transportation is planning a 4 pilot a pilot project for the installation of photovoltaic solar 5 panels on state property along highways. The rationale is that 6 solar panels could make profitable use of otherwise empty space 7 in highway rights of way. The Oregon legislature found that 8 this practice is common in Europe.

9 The legislature finds that solar panels (arrays of 10 photovoltaic cells) make use of renewable energy from the sun, 11 and are a clean and environmentally sound means of collecting solar energy to convert the sun's light energy into electrical 12 13 energy. The legislature further finds that the placement of 14 solar panels along state highways is an excellent means of 15 promoting the widespread use of solar energy to provide 16 electrical power for highway lighting fixtures or nearby 17 residential neighborhoods.

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1 The purpose of this Act is to allow the department of 2 transportation and the counties to use land along highways, 3 roadways, and streets for installation of photovoltaic solar 4 panels. 5 SECTION 2. Chapter 264, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is 6 amended by adding a new section to part I to be appropriately 7 designated and to read as follows: 8 Installation of photovoltaic solar panels. (a) "§264-9 The department of transportation or a county, as applicable, may 10 plan and provide for the installation of photovoltaic solar 11 panels on land adjacent to highways, roadways, and streets, as 12 defined in section 291C-1, that is owned by the State or by the 13 respective county. The photovoltaic solar panels shall be used 14 primarily to generate electricity to power street lighting 15 fixtures and signs, or other similar devices. The photovoltaic 16 solar panels may also be used to generate electricity for 17 residential neighborhoods in propinguity to the highway, 18 roadway, or street. 19 (b) The department of transportation, with the assistance 20 of the counties, shall locate and identify suitable land for 21 purposes of subsection (a) that is feasible for the installation 22 of photovoltaic solar panels. The department of transportation 2008-0194 SB SMA.doc 2

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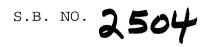
or a county, as applicable, may contract with a utility to 1 provide for the installation of photovoltaic solar panels, for 2 3 the lease of land to a utility, or for other appropriate 4 arrangements including but not limited to, the sale of 5 electricity to a utility." SECTION 3. Section 46-19, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is 6 7 amended to read as follows: 8 "[+]§46-19[+] Development of alternative energy resources. Each of the counties may participate in the development of 9 alternative energy resources [defined as], including geothermal, 10 11 solar, wind, ocean power, biomass and solid wastes, in joint 12 venture with an end user or public utility pursuant to a plan 13 for the direct utilization of the energy sources by an end user 14 or public utility; provided that [should] if a joint-venture partner is not [be] available, the counties may proceed with the 15 development of alternate energy resources for their own 16 consumption or for the furtherance of a plan for direct 17 18 utilization by an end user or public utility. A county may join with the state department of transportation for purposes of 19 20 section 264- ." 21

21 SECTION 4. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed22 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.





1 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect upon its approval. 2 INTRODUCED BY: jado Trimhl & Jorken es. Koh Juk comego Show Preudok Frzanne Chun aakland た 2008-0194 SB SMA.doc



Report Title:

Highways; Photovoltaic Solar Panels

Description:

Allows the department of transportation and the counties to identify and permit installation of photovoltaic solar panels along highways, roadways, and streets to generate electricity to power lighting fixtures and provide electricity to nearby residential neighborhoods. Allows the DOT and counties to contract with a utility to install photovoltaic solar panels.

