HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE, 2009 STATE OF HAWAII H.B. NO. 1838

## A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO ENERGY.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the State of Hawaii 2 has one of the better wind regimes in the United States for the 3 creation of renewable electrical energy through the harnessing of wind power. Over the years, Hawaii has tried to harness the 4 5 power of the wind to meet its energy needs, but such efforts have been thwarted with arguments of visual blight, low wind 6 7 speeds, threat of injury or death to avian creatures, and 8 others.

9 The legislature further finds that the energy needs of the 10 state are greater than ever, and in these difficult economic 11 times, the lack of energy independence represents an economic 12 drain and a security risk.

13 The purpose of this Act is to allow for the installation 14 of, or the retrofitting of electrical and telephone poles to 15 accommodate, small wind turbines on electrical and telephone 16 poles.

17 SECTION 2. Any utility may install wind turbines on 18 electrical and telephone poles to generate electricity for a HB HMIA 108-2009.doc

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power grid. Any utility may also retrofit an electrical or 1 telephone pole to accommodate a wind turbine for the generation 2 3 of electricity for a power grid. Any turbine installed pursuant to this Act shall be of a size that does not jeopardize the 4 5 integrity of power lines or lights.

SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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**Report Title:** Wind turbines; installation

## Description:

Allows for the placement of wind turbines on electrical and telephone poles.

