
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO CLIMATE MITIGATION.

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

1 PART I

2 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that climate change is
3 the overriding challenge of the twenty-first century. Climate
4 change poses immediate and long-term threats to Hawaii's
5 economy, public health, natural resources, environment, and way
6 of life.

7 The legislature further finds that numerous measures were
8 passed in recent decades to address climate change and reduce
9 the State's contribution to climate-warming greenhouse gas
10 emissions. In the regular session of 2021, Senate Concurrent
11 Resolution No. 44, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, was adopted, making Hawaii
12 the first state in the nation to declare a climate emergency and
13 calling for a statewide commitment to a decarbonized economy.
14 Through Act 74, Session Laws of Hawaii 2021, the legislature set
15 a goal to transition all light-duty state fleet vehicles to be
16 zero-emissions by 2035. Act 15, Session Laws of Hawaii 2018,
17 established a zero emissions clean economy target for the State
18 to sequester more atmospheric carbon and greenhouse gases than



1 emitted by no later than 2045. With Act 97, Session Laws of
2 Hawaii 2015, a one hundred per cent renewable portfolio standard
3 for electric utilities was established, requiring one hundred
4 per cent of the State's electricity to be generated from
5 renewable energy sources by 2045, making Hawaii the first state
6 to set out to eliminate fossil fuels from the electric grid.

7 The legislature additionally finds that fifteen years ago,
8 Act 234, Session Laws of Hawaii 2007, was passed, which
9 established a goal to reduce statewide greenhouse gas emissions
10 to below 1990 levels by 2020. The 2020 goal was achieved, but
11 it is notable that there are no decarbonization targets in
12 Hawaii law until 2045, which is twenty-three years into the
13 future. The legislature believes that it is imperative to
14 continue to build on Hawaii's momentum in its climate mitigation
15 efforts by establishing near-term decarbonization targets.

16 The legislature further finds that the Biden-Harris
17 administration set a nationally determined contribution pursuant
18 to Article 4 of the Paris Agreement for the United States to
19 achieve a fifty to fifty-two per cent reduction in economy-wide
20 greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 compared to 2005 levels. The
21 National Climate Advisor and the White House Office of Domestic



1 Climate Policy, in consultation with the relevant departments
2 and agencies across the federal government, conducted a detailed
3 analysis to set this 2030 target, reviewing a range of pathways
4 for each sector of the economy that produces greenhouse gas
5 emissions, including electricity, transportation, buildings,
6 industry, and the land sector. As the United States' national
7 determined contribution is consistent with the Paris Agreement
8 goal of holding the increase in the global average temperature
9 to below two degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels and
10 pursuing efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5
11 degrees Celsius, the State should similarly align its climate
12 policy and decarbonization planning. Furthermore, Act 32,
13 Session Laws of Hawaii 2017, affirmed the State's commitment to
14 uphold the landmark goals of the Paris Agreement, by stating the
15 "policies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions shall be closely
16 aligned with the climate change principals and goals adopted in
17 the Paris Agreement and Hawaii's obligations within the
18 expectations apportioned to the United States in the Paris
19 Agreement".

20 The legislature also finds that, as the State progresses
21 toward a fully decarbonized economy, the challenges of



1 addressing hard-to-decarbonize sectors will also increase. In
2 order to achieve the goal of a fully decarbonized economy, the
3 State needs to plan ahead and understand the steps that need to
4 be taken to create a carbon-negative economy by 2045, as
5 required by Act 15, Session Laws of Hawaii 2018.

6 Therefore, the purpose of this Act is to:

7 (1) Establish a goal for the statewide greenhouse gas
8 emissions limit to be at least fifty per cent below
9 2005 levels by 2030; and

10 (2) Require and appropriate funds for the Hawaii state
11 energy office to conduct a study to determine Hawaii's
12 pathway to decarbonization and identify challenges,
13 opportunities, and actions that will be needed to
14 achieve those goals.

15 PART II

16 SECTION 2. Section 225P-5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
17 amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

18 "(a) Considering both atmospheric carbon and greenhouse
19 gas emissions as well as offsets from the local sequestration of
20 atmospheric carbon and greenhouse gases through long-term sinks
21 and reservoirs, a statewide target is hereby established to



1 sequester more atmospheric carbon and greenhouse gases than
2 emitted within the State as quickly as practicable, but no later
3 than 2045[-]; provided that the statewide target includes a
4 greenhouse gas emissions limit, to be achieved no later than
5 2030, of at least fifty per cent below the level of the
6 statewide greenhouse gas emissions in 2005."

7 SECTION 3. Section 342B-71, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
8 amended to read as follows:

9 "[**§342B-71**] **Statewide greenhouse gas emissions limit,**
10 **adoption.** (a) A statewide greenhouse gas emissions limit to be
11 achieved by 2020 is hereby established that is equal to or below
12 the level of the statewide greenhouse gas emissions in 1990, as
13 determined by section 3 of Act 234, Session Laws of Hawaii 2007;
14 provided that for the purposes of this Act greenhouse gas
15 emissions from airplanes shall not be included.

16 (b) The director shall submit a report to the legislature
17 by December 31, 2023, indicating a measurement of the 2005
18 greenhouse gas emissions in the State, including emissions from
19 airplanes.

20 (c) The director shall complete a greenhouse gas emissions
21 inventory report each year beginning after 2017 to track



1 emissions and determine the State's progress in the reduction of
2 greenhouse gas emissions. The department shall make these
3 reports widely accessible, including to the public, as soon as
4 they are available."

5 PART III

6 SECTION 4. (a) The Hawaii state energy office shall
7 analyze pathways and develop recommendations for achieving the
8 State's economy-wide decarbonization goals, including the
9 statewide greenhouse gas emissions limit and goal to sequester
10 more atmospheric carbon and greenhouse gases than emitted by no
11 later than 2045 pursuant to section 225P-5, Hawaii Revised
12 Statutes.

13 (b) As part of its analysis and development of
14 recommendations, the Hawaii state energy office shall:

15 (1) Recommend regulatory or other state actions that will
16 ensure the attainment of the State's decarbonization
17 goals;

18 (2) Include measures to reduce emissions from electricity,
19 including accelerating the adoption of clean energy
20 and improving energy efficiency for residential,
21 commercial, and government users;



- 1 (3) Include land use and transportation planning measures
2 aimed at reducing emissions from the transportation
3 sector;
- 4 (4) Recommend state actions to address emissions
5 associated with air travel and shipping, including how
6 to encourage electrification and adoption of
7 alternative fuels;
- 8 (5) Recommend best management practices in the
9 agricultural sector;
- 10 (6) Include long-term carbon sequestration and carbon
11 capture and utilization opportunities;
- 12 (7) Make recommendations to aid in the transition of the
13 state workforce to meet the needs of a decarbonized
14 economy;
- 15 (8) Consider impacts to environmental justice, frontline,
16 and low-income communities and make recommendations
17 for how to mitigate any impacts to these communities
18 and to facilitate a just transition to a decarbonized
19 economy;
- 20 (9) Determine the most cost-effective pathway to
21 decarbonization;



- 1 (10) Rank recommendations based on level of impact, cost,
2 and ease of implementation;
- 3 (11) Make recommendations on whether the goals established
4 pursuant to section 225P-5, Hawaii Revised Statutes,
5 should be adjusted, or if additional interim goals
6 between the completion of the analysis and 2045 should
7 be adopted;
- 8 (12) Examine contributions of different carbon sources, how
9 each source can be reduced, what entities are
10 responsible for the reduction of each source, and how
11 each source factors into the determination of
12 statewide greenhouse gas reduction goals; and
- 13 (13) Include other relevant considerations as deemed
14 appropriate and necessary.
- 15 (c) In preparing the analysis, the Hawaii state energy
16 office shall consult and collaborate with other state agencies,
17 the counties, and relevant stakeholders and organizations.
- 18 (d) The Hawaii state energy office shall submit a report
19 of its analysis and recommendations to the legislature no later
20 than twenty days prior to the convening of the regular session
21 of 2024.



1 SECTION 5. There is appropriated out of the energy
2 security special fund the sum of \$350,000 or so much thereof as
3 may be necessary for fiscal year 2022-2023 for the Hawaii state
4 energy office to analyze pathways and develop recommendations
5 for achieving the State's economy-wide decarbonization goals, as
6 required pursuant to section 4 of this Act.

7 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the Hawaii state
8 energy office for the purposes of this part.

9 PART IV

10 SECTION 6. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
11 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

12 SECTION 7. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2022.



Report Title:

Greenhouse Gas Emissions Limit; Hawaii State Energy Office;
Pathway to Decarbonization; Study; Energy Security Special Fund;
Appropriation

Description:

Establishes a goal for the statewide greenhouse gas emissions limit to be at least fifty per cent below 2005 levels by 2030. Requires the Hawaii state energy office to conduct a study to determine Hawaii's pathway to decarbonization and identify challenges, opportunities, and actions that will be needed to achieve those goals. Appropriates funds out of the energy security special fund for the study. (CD2)

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