
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION TO EVALUATE CURRENT
RATE STRUCTURES AND CONSIDER ADDITIONAL BENEFITS FOR THOSE
COMMUNITIES THAT HOST RENEWABLE ENERGY PROJECTS.

1 WHEREAS, the State continues to move towards its mandated
2 renewable energy and carbon emission goals -- including its goal
3 to become completely carbon neutral by 2045 -- which will reduce
4 electricity costs and lower carbon emissions; and

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6 WHEREAS, the State's growing need for clean energy has
7 accelerated the development and construction of different
8 renewable energy projects in more locations around the State,
9 creating new jobs and opportunities; and

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11 WHEREAS, while development and construction may boost a
12 local economy, residents living in a community impacted by a
13 large-scale renewable energy project often face a disruption in
14 their lives as a result; and

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16 WHEREAS, residents of the State living in communities that
17 host large-scale renewable energy projects are charged a flat
18 rate for energy by their providers, regardless of their
19 proximity to these energy producing projects; and

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21 WHEREAS, benefit packages provided by developers to
22 communities that host large-scale renewable energy projects are
23 often not enough to provide them with fair compensation; and

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25 WHEREAS, communities around the State should be encouraged
26 to desire more large-scale renewable energy projects, and the
27 provision of direct benefits to residents who host renewable
28 energy projects can help stimulate community buy-in and
29 investment; and
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1 WHEREAS, the Public Utilities Commission has the oversight
2 of and authority to influence the rate structures of energy
3 providers; now, therefore,
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5 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-second
6 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2023, the
7 House of Representatives concurring, that the Public Utilities
8 Commission is requested to evaluate current rate structures and
9 consider additional benefits for those communities that host
10 renewable energy projects; and
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12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
13 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Chair of
14 the Public Utilities Commission, and Mayor of each county.
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