

JAN 19 2024

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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO GEOTHERMAL ENERGY.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that in 2022, twenty-nine  
2 per cent of Hawaii's energy generation stemmed from renewables.  
3 Currently, the Hawaii clean energy initiative has a goal for the  
4 State to reach one hundred per cent clean energy by 2045.  
5 Geothermal power harnesses the power of steam to produce  
6 electricity and could be a major player in accomplishing  
7 Hawaii's energy and renewable goals.

8           Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to appropriate  
9 funds for the Hawaii state energy office to conduct a state-wide  
10 blanket environmental impact statement for geothermal  
11 exploration and development.

12           SECTION 2. In accordance with section 9 of article VII of  
13 the Hawaii State Constitution and sections 37-91 and 37-93,  
14 Hawaii Revised Statutes, the legislature has determined that the  
15 appropriations contained in Act 164, Regular Session of 2023,  
16 and this Act will cause the state general fund expenditure  
17 ceiling for fiscal year 2024-2025 to be exceeded by



1 \$ or per cent. This current declaration takes  
2 into account general fund appropriations authorized for fiscal  
3 year 2024-2025 in Act 164, Regular Session of 2023, and this Act  
4 only. The reasons for exceeding the general fund expenditure  
5 ceiling are that:

- 6 (1) The appropriation made in this Act is necessary to  
7 serve the public interest; and
- 8 (2) The appropriation made in this Act meets the needs  
9 addressed by this Act.

10 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general  
11 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so  
12 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2024-2025 for  
13 the Hawaii state energy office to conduct a state-wide blanket  
14 environmental impact statement for geothermal exploration and  
15 development.

16 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the Hawaii state  
17 energy office for the purposes of this Act.

18 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2024.

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INTRODUCED BY: 



# S.B. NO. 2577

**Report Title:**

HSEO; Geothermal Energy; EIS; Hawaii Clean Energy Initiative;  
Expenditure Ceiling; Appropriation

**Description:**

Declares that the general fund expenditure ceiling is exceeded.  
Makes an appropriation to the Hawaii State Energy Office to  
conduct a state-wide blanket environmental impact statement for  
geothermal exploration and development.

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

