

JAN 20 2023

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO RENEWABLE ENERGY.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that Act 97, Session Laws
2 of Hawaii 2015, established the renewable portfolio standards
3 target of one hundred per cent renewable electric energy by
4 2045. The legislature also passed Act 15, Session Laws of
5 Hawaii 2018, establishing a statewide zero emissions clean
6 economy target to sequester more atmospheric carbon and
7 greenhouse gases than emitted within the State as quickly as
8 practicable, but no later than 2045.

9 The legislature further finds that to move the State closer
10 to its carbon negative target as soon as possible, which is
11 needed to mitigate the damaging effects of projected sea level
12 rise due to greenhouse gas emissions, the completion of
13 renewable energy generation and storage projects that promote
14 the viability of the food supply chain and ultimately all people
15 of the State in the event of an extreme weather event is of
16 paramount importance for the health and safety of all people.



1 The legislature recognizes that the State has a long way to
2 go to ensure food security and resilience for local communities.
3 To ensure that the food supply chain can keep people alive in
4 the event of a natural disaster, a disaster which becomes more
5 and more likely as the effects of climate change continue to
6 increase extreme weather events, it is imperative to increase
7 access to renewable energy generation and storage for the food
8 supply chain. Building a climate and food resilient future
9 begins with prioritizing the viability of the food supply chain
10 and ensuring access to renewable energy generation and storage
11 to ensure human survival.

12 The legislature further finds that the development,
13 expansion, and protection of solar energy will help to meet the
14 present and future energy needs and renewable energy mandates of
15 the State. The legislature recognizes the importance of
16 addressing energy usage in essential industries to make progress
17 on State and national greenhouse reduction goals. Essential
18 industries are those that are necessary for the State's
19 residents to live and function. These industries have certain
20 energy demands that must be met in order for the State to



1 function. If these energy demands can be met more sustainably,
2 then the entire state becomes more sustainable.

3 The legislature further finds that the use of renewable
4 energy sources, including solar energy and battery storage
5 systems, can make the State more resilient during and after
6 natural disasters and other crisis. Because certain parts of
7 the State are more susceptible to disruptions in power supply
8 and transportation routes in times of crisis, ensuring that
9 essential businesses are energy self-sufficient and resilient
10 should be a priority in order to make disaster response plans
11 more functional, efficient, and equitable in case of a natural
12 disaster or other crisis.

13 The legislature further finds that one of the biggest
14 impediments to essential food supply chain businesses installing
15 solar and battery storage energy systems is the time consuming
16 and onerous permitting process.

17 The purpose of this Act is to:

18 (1) Exempt food supply chain businesses from permit or
19 zoning requirements necessary for the installation of
20 a renewable energy technology system or renewable
21 energy storage system; and



1 (2) Allow food supply chain businesses to self-certify
2 through licensed contractors for renewable energy
3 technology systems and renewable energy storage
4 systems used for its operations.

5 SECTION 2. Chapter 196, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
6 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated
7 and to read as follows:

8 "§196- Food supply chain businesses; renewable energy
9 systems; exemption. (a) A food supply chain business shall be
10 exempt from all permit and zoning requirements necessary for the
11 installation of a renewable energy technology system or
12 renewable energy storage system.

13 (b) A food supply chain business shall be allowed to self-
14 certify through licensed contractors for renewable energy
15 technology systems and renewable energy storage systems used for
16 its operations.

17 (c) The commission shall adopt rules, pursuant to chapter
18 91, necessary for the purposes of this section.

19 (d) For the purposes of this section:



1 "Food supply chain business" means any person who is
2 engaged in the business of growing, storing, distributing,
3 transporting, donating, or retailing food in the State.

4 "Renewable energy storage system" means a system that
5 enables energy generated by a renewable energy technology system
6 to be captured and stored when available and released when
7 needed.

8 "Renewable energy technology system" shall have the same
9 meaning as in section 235-12.5."

10 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

11 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

12

INTRODUCED BY:



S.B. NO. 1185

Report Title:

Food Supply Chain Business; Renewable Energy Storage System;
Renewable Energy Technology System; Permit; Zoning

Description:

Exempts food supply chain businesses from permit or zoning requirements necessary for the installation of a renewable energy technology system or renewable energy storage system. Allows a food supply chain business to self-certify through licensed contractors for renewable energy technology systems and renewable energy storage systems used for its operations. Defines "food supply chain business" and "renewable energy storage system".

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

