
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO ENERGY FINANCING.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that rooftop solar plus
2 storage systems will help the State meet its one hundred per
3 cent renewable energy portfolio standard goal by 2045, while
4 reducing carbon emissions and the State's reliance on imported
5 fossil fuels and helping to stabilize the grid. The legislature
6 further finds that the green energy money saver on-bill
7 financing program has filled the financing gap in providing
8 inclusive, accessible, and affordable financing of rooftop solar
9 plus storage systems to reduce energy-burdened, underserved
10 ratepayers.

11 The legislature further finds that as of January 2025, the
12 Hawaii green infrastructure authority has over one thousand two
13 hundred applications in process, which are anticipated to
14 consume remaining available funding. Additionally, while the
15 Hawaii green infrastructure authority was awarded \$62,000,000 in
16 federal solar-for-all loan funds, these funds are restricted to
17 financing only low-income households and a limited number of



1 disadvantaged census tracts, leaving moderate-income households
2 and other underserved ratepayers, including nonprofits and small
3 businesses, without access to financing.

4 The purpose of this Act is to provide a capital infusion to
5 the clean energy and energy efficiency revolving loan fund for
6 the Hawaii green infrastructure authority to finance projects
7 for underserved ratepayers, in addition to other eligible
8 borrowers.

9 SECTION 2. Section 196-61, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
10 amended by adding a new definition to be appropriately inserted
11 and to read as follows:

12 ""Underserved ratepayer" means state and local governments,
13 low- and moderate-income homeowners, renters, nonprofits, small
14 businesses as defined by the United States Small Business
15 Administration, and multi-family rental projects."

16 SECTION 3. Section 196-65.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
17 amended by amending subsection (b) to read as follows:

18 "(b) Moneys in the clean energy and energy efficiency
19 revolving loan fund shall be used to provide low-cost loans at
20 below-market rates or other authorized financial assistance to
21 underserved ratepayers; eligible public, private, and nonprofit

1 borrowers for clean energy investments; or other authorized
 2 uses, [~~or both,~~] or combination thereof, on terms approved by
 3 the authority. Moneys from the fund may be used to cover
 4 administrative and legal costs of fund management and management
 5 associated with individual loans, which include personnel,
 6 services, technical assistance, data collection and reporting,
 7 materials, equipment, and travel for the purposes of this
 8 section."

9 SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general
 10 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
 11 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2025-2026 to be
 12 deposited into the clean energy and energy efficiency revolving
 13 loan fund established pursuant to section 196-65.5, Hawaii
 14 Revised Statutes.

15 SECTION 5. There is appropriated out of the clean energy
 16 and energy efficiency revolving loan fund the sum of
 17 \$ or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal
 18 year 2025-2026 to provide loans or other financial assistance to
 19 eligible borrowers for clean energy investments or other
 20 authorized uses; provided that the appropriation shall not lapse



1 at the end of the fiscal year for which the appropriation is
2 made.

3 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the Hawaii green
4 infrastructure authority for the purposes of this Act.

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

7 SECTION 7. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2025.



Report Title:

Energy Financing; Clean Energy and Energy Efficiency Revolving Loan Fund; Underserved Ratepayers; Appropriation

Description:

Authorizes the Clean Energy and Energy Efficiency Revolving Loan Fund to be used to provide financial assistance to underserved ratepayers, in addition to other eligible borrowers.

Appropriates funds into and out of the Clean Energy and Energy Efficiency Revolving Loan Fund. (SD1)

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