

JAN 21 2026

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO COMBUSTION-FREE ENERGY SOLUTIONS.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that settlement of the
2 *Navahine F. v. Hawai'i Department of Transportation* CIV. NO.
3 1CCV-24-0000269 (Hawai'i Cir. Ct.) case requires that the
4 department of transportation establish a Greenhouse Gas (GHG)
5 Reduction Plan to implement legislative requirements to achieve
6 zero emissions by 2045 across all sectors of transportation in
7 the State, including ground and interisland sea and air
8 transportation modes. Any combustion of carbon-based fuels
9 releases greenhouse gas emissions and cannot be a legitimate
10 part of any state GHG reduction plan; therefore, the
11 transportation sector can only achieve zero emissions once the
12 electric generation sector is combustion-free.

13 The legislature additionally finds that many alternative
14 fuels actually have worse GHG impacts than the fossil fuels they
15 replace, rely largely on imports, and would make energy far more
16 expensive for local residents than a transition plan based on
17 conservation, efficiency, electrification, and combustion-free



1 clean, renewable energy sources coupled with energy storage
2 strategies. It is in the best interest of state consumers,
3 taxpayers, and ratepayers to invest public incentives into the
4 most clean and cost-effective solutions with minimal imports and
5 without building new infrastructure that would need to be phased
6 out prematurely in order to complete a second major
7 infrastructure transition by the State's 2045 targets.
8 Therefore, the legislature believes that further research is
9 essential to the development of a successful approach to
10 transitioning the State to carbon-free, renewable energy
11 sources.

12 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to require the
13 Hawaii state energy office to commission a study of various
14 energy consumption sectors and possible avenues for effective
15 decarbonization.

16 SECTION 2. (a) The Hawaii state energy office shall
17 commission a study of the different energy consumption sectors,
18 including electricity, transportation, and heating, to determine
19 which sector can be most quickly and cost-effectively
20 decarbonized through additional public investment in
21 combustion-free renewable energy sources.



(b) The study shall:

(1) Evaluate only:

(A) Residential, commercial and industrial sectors
for electricity and heating consumption; and

(B) Ground transportation, sea and air interisland
transportation, and international cargo shipping;
and

(2) Include and prioritize conservation and efficiency
strategies, including but not limited to storage
strategies to ensure firm energy.

(c) The Hawaii state energy office shall submit a report
of its findings and recommendations, including any proposed
legislation, to the legislature no later than December 31, 2026.

SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

INTRODUCED BY: Mike Gabbard



S.B. NO. 2369

Report Title:

HSEO; Decarbonization; Renewable Energy Sources; Study; Report

Description:

Requires the Hawaii State Energy Office to commission a study of various energy sectors relating to cost-effective methods for decarbonization. Requires a report to the Legislature.

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