



LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR

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GOVERNOR LINGLE SIGNS 4 KEY ENERGY BILLS AS PART OF THE HAWAII CLEAN ENERGY INITIATIVE

Honolulu – Governor Linda Lingle signed into law four key energy bills which:

- establish new renewable energy portfolio standards;
- provide for refunds for the purchase of solar water heating, photovoltaic, and wind systems;
- begin the transformation of Hawai'i's ground transportation to electric vehicles; and
- provide clear guidance on the collection and analyses of energy data.

“These new laws are an important foundation for achieving our goal of 70 percent clean energy by the year 2030,” said Governor Lingle. “We are pleased with the collaboration and support we received from the legislature, the private sector, environmental groups, and our partnership with the Department of Energy.”

ACT 155 (09) - HB 1464 HD3 SD2 CD1– Relating to Energy Resources

Establishes comprehensive measures to promote the increased use and development of renewable energy resources and energy efficiency.

These include:

- renewable portfolio standards;
- energy resources coordinator powers and duties;
- renewable energy facilitator duties;
- renewable energy permitting;
- energy efficiency portfolio standards;
- public building benchmarks,
- retro-commissioning guidelines, and
- energy savings performance contracts.

The measure supports the achievement of Hawai'i Clean Energy Initiatives goals, and provides for economic diversification in jobs, incomes and the tax base through the reduction of imported fossil fuels.

ACT 154 (09) - SB 464 SD2 HD2 CD2 – Relating to Taxation

Provides for the option of taxpayers to claim a refund for the purchase of solar water heating, photovoltaic, and wind systems.

Previously, such purchases were eligible only as a tax credit and some taxpayers were not able to take advantage of the tax incentives since they had no tax liabilities. Therefore, those on a fixed income, or other situations in which they did not owe taxes, were precluded from taking advantage of the tax credit.

With a refundable tax credit, more consumers will purchase and install these renewable energy systems which will reduce their monthly utility bills, reduce the state's dependence on fossil fuels and subsequent greenhouse gas emissions.

ACT 156 (09) SB 1202 SD2 HD2 CD1– Relating to Transportation Energy Initiatives

Begins transforming Hawai'i's ground transportation sector to be less dependent on petroleum. It accounts for the unique needs and attributes of electric vehicles required for adoption, set forth clear instructions whereby government will lead by example in selecting alternative vehicles, and enables the use of Federal funds, if available, for transportation energy through the use of vehicle "transformation" grants.

ACT 153 (09) - SB 868 SD2 HD2 CD1– Relating to Energy Resources

Establishes definitive policy guidance needed on the nature and relationship of energy data analyses to the State's energy program, and clearly delineates the distinctive analytic roles and responsibilities of state agencies conducting energy data functions.

This new law provides the statutory basis for a systematic state energy analytic capacity and capability, which is essential to support the energy resources coordinator's role in supporting the energy system in Hawai'i.

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