

JAN 26 2011

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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION.

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

1           SECTION 1. Section 269-6, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
2 amended by amending subsection (b) to read as follows:

3           "(b) The public utilities commission [~~may~~] shall consider  
4 the need [~~for~~] to reduce the State's reliance on fossil fuels  
5 through energy efficiency and increased renewable energy [use]  
6 generation in exercising its authority and duties under this  
7 chapter. In making determinations of the reasonableness of the  
8 costs of utility system capital improvements and operations, the  
9 commission shall explicitly consider, quantitatively or  
10 qualitatively, the fact that the State's reliance on fossil  
11 fuels results in increased price volatility, export of funds for  
12 fuel imports, fuel supply reliability risk, and greenhouse gas  
13 emissions. The commission may determine that short-term costs  
14 or direct costs that are higher than alternatives relying more  
15 heavily on fossil fuels are reasonable, considering the impacts  
16 resulting from the use of fossil fuels."

17           SECTION 2. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
18 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.



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

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INTRODUCED BY:

Mike Galt

Anna Mercedes Ki

Michelle Kelani

Matt

Francis Chun Auland

Yue Chang  
Gohai



**Report Title:**

Public Utilities Commission; Renewable Energy

**Description:**

Allows the public utilities commission (PUC) to consider the benefits of capital improvements for renewable energy and energy efficiency despite the short-term expense. Requires the PUC to consider the need to reduce the State's reliance on fossil fuels.

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