

JAN 18 2019

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO OFFSHORE DRILLING.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the federal
2 government through the executive authority of the President has
3 proposed a program to vastly expand offshore drilling for oil or
4 natural gas. This program includes opening up Pacific Ocean
5 waters near Alaska and the western coast of the Continental
6 United States to potential offshore oil or natural gas drilling.

7 The legislature further finds that, although Hawaii has no
8 proven petroleum or natural gas reserves or production, the
9 State does produce petroleum products and crude oil is refined
10 within the State. The feedstock used to refine crude oil is
11 most often light sweet crude oil imported from producers in the
12 Pacific rim.

13 The legislature additionally finds that while petroleum
14 fired power plants supplied more than three-fourths of Hawaii's
15 utility-scale net electricity generation for most of the past
16 twenty years, the prominence of petroleum generated electricity
17 has declined recently. In 2014, for the first time, net



1 generation from petroleum was below seventy per cent. In 2016,
2 petroleum fueled two-thirds of the State's net generation.

3 The legislature also finds that the State is committed to
4 the promotion and development of renewable and sustainable
5 energy. Act 97, Regular Session of 2015, established a goal of
6 one hundred per cent renewable energy in Hawaii by December 31,
7 2045.

8 The purpose of this Act is to prohibit:

- 9 (1) Offshore drilling for oil or natural gas in state
10 marine waters; and
11 (2) Issuance of permits for or in connection with the
12 development or operation of any facility or
13 infrastructure associated with offshore drilling for
14 oil or natural gas in any waters.

15 SECTION 2. Chapter 190D, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
16 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated
17 and to read as follows:

18 "§190D- Offshore oil and gas exploration in state
19 waters; applications in support of oil and gas exploration;
20 prohibited. (a) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary,



S.B. NO. 259

1 offshore drilling for oil or natural gas shall be prohibited in
2 state marine waters.

3 (b) No permit shall be issued for or in connection with
4 the development or operation of any facility or infrastructure
5 associated with offshore drilling for oil or natural gas whether
6 proposed for within or outside of state marine waters."

7 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

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

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INTRODUCED BY:

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S.B. NO. 259

Report Title:

Offshore Drilling; Oil and Natural Gas; State Waters;
Infrastructure; Prohibition

Description:

Prohibits offshore drilling for oil or natural gas in state marine waters. Prohibits issuance of permits for or in connection with the development or operation of any facility or infrastructure associated with offshore drilling for oil or natural gas in any waters.

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