

**JOINT RESOLUTION - RENEWABLE ENERGY  
SYSTEM**

2009 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Chief Sponsor: Patricia W. Jones**

House Sponsor: Rebecca Chavez-Houck

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**LONG TITLE**

**General Description:**

This joint resolution of the Legislature addresses renewable energy systems.

**Highlighted Provisions:**

This resolution:

- ▶ urges the State Energy Program to assess the need for and assist with the development of model renewable energy ordinances at the local government level and directs the program to report to the Legislature on its process for assessing the need;
- ▶ urges the State Energy Program to consult and work cooperatively with municipal government representatives and others to develop model ordinances relating to wind, solar, geothermal, hydro, and biomass energy; and
- ▶ directs that a copy of the resolution be sent to the State Energy Program.

**Special Clauses:**

None

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*Be it resolved by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

WHEREAS, it is the policy of the state, as provided in Subsection 63M-4-301(1)(a), that the state have adequate, reliable, affordable, sustainable, and clean energy resources;

WHEREAS, the state wishes to provide clarity to the process of developing renewable energy projects and to make the permitting process for development of renewable energy for Utah residents, businesses, and local governments more efficient and less burdensome;

30 WHEREAS, the state believes that renewable energy should continue to be part of a  
31 diversified and balanced energy portfolio that can help meet growing energy demands;

32 WHEREAS, properly designed renewable energy installation ordinances can help  
33 communities, individuals, and businesses gain greater access to wind, geothermal, hydro,  
34 biomass, and solar energy resources, while preserving farmlands and agricultural enterprises  
35 and adjoining residential and commercial developments as compatible adjoining uses;

36 WHEREAS, the state recognizes that the renewable energy industry is growing and can  
37 continue to benefit the state economically, and efforts to streamline renewable energy  
38 installations could have future potential positive economic impacts to the state;

39 WHEREAS, the State Energy Program, housed in the Utah Geological Survey, a  
40 division of the Utah Department of Natural Resources, provides direct support for and access  
41 to available funding for energy efficiency, energy conservation, and renewable energy  
42 programs and projects in the state; and

43 WHEREAS, the State Energy Program administers state solar, wind, and geothermal  
44 working groups that meet regularly throughout the state and are open to the public and any  
45 interested parties:

46 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the State Energy Program be urged to  
47 assess the need for and assist with the development of model renewable energy ordinances, if  
48 considered useful, that facilitate the development of solar, wind, geothermal, hydro, biomass,  
49 and other renewable energy resources through collaborative stakeholder processes.

50 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the State Energy Program be directed to report the  
51 findings and any resulting model ordinances to the Legislature no later than November 30,  
52 2009.

53 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the State Energy Program be urged to consult and  
54 work cooperatively with representatives of municipal governments and other interested parties  
55 to develop model ordinances relating to wind, solar, geothermal, hydro, and biomass energy  
56 for municipalities to consider adopting as they consider appropriate for their jurisdictions.

57 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this joint resolution be sent to the State

58 Energy Program.