

Mr. Chairman, Members of the Committee, I am David Ryan, going on the record as representing the Montana Renewable Energy Association.

We stand in favor of Senate Bill 415 - Expand production and use of alternative energy.

We also stand in favor of Senate Bill 364 – environmental Labeling and disclosure

We also stand in favor of Senate Joint Resolution 17 – Resolution to extend the Wind Production Tax Incentive.

New Jersey Study Prepared for NJ Board of Public Utilities - Office of Clean Energy
December 8, 2004

– Increase RPS from 4% to 20% by 2020

Projected Impacts:

Electric costs raised by 3.7%, but no impact on growth

Add approximately 11,700 jobs

Cause natural gas prices to edge slightly downward

Increase reliability

May reduce expenditures on electric transmission and distribution

The main benefit is avoided environmental costs

Hawaii Study - prepared for the
DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM
STATE OF HAWAII
by GDS Associates, Inc.
Suite 720, 1850 Parkway Place
Marietta, Georgia 30067
April, 2000

Benefits Listed:

1. Job creation
2. Reduced reliance on foreign oil and gas supplies
3. Risk management (due to diversifying the portfolio of energy resource options)
4. Reduced air pollution
5. Reduced greenhouse gas emissions
6. Increased environmental security for future generations
7. Conservation of fossil resources for future generations

Government intervention is necessary, because the price tag for electricity generated by fossil fuels does not include most of the costs of damage such generation causes to the environment and human health. Furthermore, the market does not assign value to the public benefits of renewable energy. Predominant among those public benefits are environmental benefits from the displacement of additional fossil or nuclear generation. Renewable energy deployment also provides substantial society-wide benefits via price stability and reliability benefits from the existence of multiple and distributed fuel sources; readiness benefits in the event of sudden fuel price spikes or fuel supply disruption; technology development potential, including export potential; and the benefits provided by conserving fossil resources for future generations.