Dead HB 361  Requires a supplemental environmental assessment or supplemental environmental impact statement after the passage of 15 years from the date of the determination of a finding of no significant impact or the acceptance of the statement, if the proposed action is not implemented.  Exempts actions involving renewable energy projects from this.  Saki  EEP, JHA, FIN  Companion SB469  Pg 16: talks about appeals to EC. Why exempt renewable energy projects?


Dead HB696  Adds definitions of "biomass" and "fossil fuels", and amends the definition of "power generating facility" for purposes of environmental impact statements.  Eli  EEP, JHA, FIN  Companion SB889  Revises definitions, so as to include biomass.

Swapped; now HB2624 from 2020 HB842  Establishes the Environmental Impact Statement Hub as a hearing and notification website within the Office of Environmental Quality Control to notify the public of current and upcoming Environmental Impact Statement hearings, public comment periods, and allowing comments to be filed online.  Matsumoto, Kapela, Kitagawa, Lowen, Marten, McDermott, Nasuto, Ten.  EEP, FIN  Intro 2020. Charges OEC with significantly expanded Env Notice. Issue of staff and $$. Keith/Onoana testified.

Dead HB880  Sunshine Law re Boards  Governor  PDP, JHA  Companion SB1034  Establishes 3 options for meetings; allows for virtual but requires place for public to view (and requires minutes!!)

To JHA HB901  Amends the environmental impact statement law to delete reference to discretionary permits in allowing infrastructure improvements within a highway or public right-of-way to be exempt from environmental assessment requirements.  Saki (Gov)  EEP, JHA  Companion SB1055  Keith/comments; Ted Bohlen oppose; DBEDT and OP support.

in FIN; lots of amendments; See Committee Report HB1318  Restructures the statewide sustainability branch as the sustainability and environmental review division. Transfers the environmental council from the department of health to be established in the office of planning as the environmental advisory council. Transfers the rights, powers, employees, appropriations, and other personal property from the office of environmental quality control to the sustainability and environmental review division. Amends the ability for an applicant to appeal nonacceptance of an environmental impact statement from the council to develop a tool to identify economic justice communities. Defines "economic justice community". Appropriates moneys  Lowen, Tamas  EEP, FIN  New; depart from DOH to Sustainability Branch; eliminates creates Env Advisory Council within Sustainability and Environmental Review within Office of Planning. Eliminates annual report and appeals to EC. Would require staff increases. Compare to HB423. Keith supports/OP/Comments; Ted Bohlen opposes.

To JHA; Moves responsibility from EC to OP HB1350  Requires the environmental council to develop a tool to identify economic justice communities. Defines "economic justice community". Appropriates moneys  Martin  EEP, JHA, FIN  Huge task for understaffed EC and OEC. Calls for involvement with UH Env Cntr. Good idea; maybe done by UH Public hearings? Requirements from other agencies? Publication? Amended to have OP not EC establish the tool.

To JDC SB 351  Amends the statutory requirement for the Environmental Council to prepare an annual report by January 31 of each year. Repeals the requirement that allows for hearings appeals from applicant actions where an environmental impact statement was not accepted by the accepting authority.  Gabbard, Chang, Lee  AEN, JDC  Requested by EC. Eliminates requirement for Annual Report; eliminates appeals to EC. Deletes reference to UH Env Center. Note specific responsibilities for EC in Section 2(b) AEN/hearing 2/3. Passed unanimously. Next to JDC.

Dead SB469  Requires a supplemental environmental assessment or supplemental environmental impact statement after the passage of 15 years from the date of the determination of a finding of no significant impact or the acceptance of the statement, if the proposed action is not implemented. Exempts actions involving renewable energy projects from this.  Keith-Agaran, Kanuha, Lee, Rhoads  WTL/JAE, JDC  Companion HB3361

Dead SB889  Adds definitions of "biomass" and "fossil fuels", and amends the definition of "power generating facility" for purposes of environmental impact statements.  Shimabukuro, Aiasio, Chang, Misauchi  AEN/EE, JDC  Companion HB896

Dead SB968  Establishes the department of environmental protection. Transfers jurisdiction of certain functions and employees of the department of land and natural resources, department of agriculture, and department of health, to the department of environmental protection.  Aiasio, Chang, Poveilla  AEN/WTL/GVO, JDC  Companion to HB423

Passed; w/a SB1034  Sunshine Law re Boards  Governor  JDC  Companion to HB880

Passed; w/a SB1055  Amends the environmental impact statement law to delete reference to discretionary permits in allowing infrastructure improvements within a highway or public right-of-way to be exempt from environmental assessment requirements.  Governor  AEN/TRS, JDC  Companion to HB938  Passed by AEN and TRS. Keith/Comments; DOT, DBEDT, OP support. Earth Justice LOL oppose; Ted Bohlen oppose.

Passed to JDC SB1277  Establishes the environmental justice mapping task force and an advisory council to develop high-quality data relating to environmental justice concerns, identify environmental justice communities, and devise a method to correct for racist and unjust practices leading to historical and current environmental injustices.  Chang  AEN, JDC  Similar to HB1350  Sets up Env Justice Mapping Task Force; not all on EC. Only State Agencies; no UH or privates. Bill calls for "meaningful engagement with relevant stakeholders..." and an Advisory Council from stakeholders. Requires state agencies to use the tool for an "audit".

Passed w/a To JDC; Moved to §343 SB1292  Exempts the proposed drilling, construction, or use of a well on lands leased from the department of agriculture from the requirements of the environmental impact statements law, provided that the land is being used to support agriculture and food production.  S  WTL/AEN, JDC  Enables exemption from EIS if well dug on lands leased from DOA if the last is being used to support agriculture and food production.