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HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM TO STUDY THE FEASIBILITY OF FORMING A CENTER FOR HYDROGEN BASED ENERGY STUDY.

WHEREAS, Hawaii is an insular state that is geographically isolated in the middle of the Pacific Ocean; and

WHEREAS, the State has always been immensely dependent on imported energy, mainly oil; and

WHEREAS, efforts have been made to increase the use of alternative energy resources; and

WHEREAS, the use of hydrogen-based energy is currently in an experimental stage; and

WHEREAS, hydrogen fuel cells are the most promising of the new technologies for nonpolluting, renewable energy generation; and

WHEREAS, hydrogen has the potential to be widely used as a source of clean, renewable, efficient energy; and

WHEREAS, the widespread use of hydrogen as a source of electricity and fuel for transportation could be beneficial for the State of Hawaii as a means of reducing air pollution and decreasing dependence on imported oil and carbon-based fuels; and

WHEREAS, Hawaii should lead an initiative to research the uses of hydrogen as an energy source and develop marketable hydrogen technology such as fuel cells; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2007, that the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism, is requested to work in conjunction with the University of Hawaii, and the East-West Center to

explore advanced alternative energy development opportunities including the feasibility of forming a Center for Hydrogen Study to improve our understanding of potential applications for hydrogen-based energy; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism, the University of Hawaii, and the East-West Center are urged to cooperate with the counties and private industry in its feasibility study for a Center for Hydrogen Based Energy Study and pursuing its goals; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism is requested to submit to the Legislature a report on its findings, recommendations, and the actions taken not later than twenty days prior to the convening of the 2008 Regular Session; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, the Director of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism, the Chairperson of the Board of Regents of the University of Hawaii, the President of the East-West Center, and the Mayor of each county.

OFFERED BY:

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