
HOUSE RESOLUTION

ENDORISING THE EARTH CHARTER AND URGING THE GOVERNOR, MAYORS, AND COUNTY COUNCILS TO ADOPT AND USE THE CHARTER AS PART OF THE FRAMEWORK FOR SUSTAINABLE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT.

1 WHEREAS, the World Commission on Environment and
2 Development (a.k.a. "the Brundtland Commission") first called
3 for "a universal declaration" and "new charter" to set "new
4 norms" to guide the transition to sustainable development in the
5 mid-1980s; and
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7 WHEREAS, discussions led to a draft Earth Charter which was
8 discussed at the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro in 1992; and
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10 WHEREAS, an independent Earth Charter Commission was formed
11 in 1997 to unite several ongoing international discussions and
12 reach a global consensus on the Earth Charter; and
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14 WHEREAS, the Earth Charter is an authoritative synthesis of
15 values, principles, and aspirations that are widely shared by
16 growing numbers of people, in all regions of the world; and
17

18 WHEREAS, the four central principles of the Earth Charter
19 are:
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21 (1) Respect and Care for the Community of Life;

22 (2) Ecological Integrity;

23 (3) Social and Economic Justice; and
24

25 (4) Democracy, Nonviolence and Peace;
26
27

28
29 and
30



1 WHEREAS, the Earth Charter is currently used as a basis for
 2 peace negotiations, as a reference document in the development
 3 of global standards and codes of ethics, as a resource for
 4 governance and legislative processes, as a community development
 5 tool, as an educational framework for sustainable development,
 6 and in many other contexts; and
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8 WHEREAS, the Earth Charter is increasingly recognized as a
 9 global consensus statement on the meaning of sustainability, the
 10 challenge and vision of sustainable development, and the
 11 principles by which sustainable development is to be achieved;
 12 and
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14 WHEREAS, the Earth Charter's principles of respect,
 15 conservation, sustainability, sharing, equality, democracy,
 16 tolerance, justice, and peace are consistent with the
 17 recommendations of the Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Task Force;
 18 and
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20 WHEREAS, individuals, organizations, and governments
 21 worldwide are being urged to endorse the Earth Charter; and
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23 WHEREAS, the State of Hawaii seeks to be a leader in
 24 incorporating principles of sustainability into planning
 25 processes at all levels of government; now, therefore,
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27 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
 28 Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
 29 of 2009, that this body endorses the Earth Charter as part of a
 30 framework for sustainable planning and development; and
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32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Governor and the mayors and
 33 county councils of each county are urged to adopt and use the
 34 Earth Charter as part of a framework for sustainable planning;
 35 and
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37 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 38 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, the Mayor and the
 39 Chairperson of the Council of each county, Hawaii's
 40 Congressional Delegation, and Earth Charter U.S.
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 OFFERED BY: *[Signature]*
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 Jyla B. Berg
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