

MAR 18 2009

SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO IMPLEMENT SIMPLE,
COST-EFFECTIVE PRACTICES THAT ENCOURAGE ENERGY CONSERVATION
IN THE WORKPLACE AMONG DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL.

1 WHEREAS, the Department of Education (DOE) may do more than
2 it is doing now to implement simple, but important, energy
3 conservation practices in the workplace; and
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5 WHEREAS, during the last decade, the State has invested
6 millions of dollars in technology to bring down energy costs;
7 and
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9 WHEREAS, the State has established various operational
10 procedures to lower electricity costs; for example, at the State
11 Capitol, the air conditioning is turned off at 4:30 p.m. each
12 weekday and left off during the weekends and holidays; and
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14 WHEREAS, the Legislature finds that even with these
15 measures in place, more can be done by the DOE leadership and
16 employees; for example, at the DOE, employees leave fluorescent
17 lights on when no one is in the room, computers are left on over
18 the weekend, windows are propped open and space heaters are used
19 even though the air conditioning is operating, and various other
20 unnecessary personal appliances are used; and
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22 WHEREAS, the Legislature finds that DOE employees should be
23 encouraged to conserve energy by way of simple, inexpensive
24 conservation reminders, such as signs placed at each exit or
25 above each light switch, announcements during meetings and
26 training sessions, brief articles in DOE newsletters, emails to
27 employees, and morning announcements; and
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29 WHEREAS, although the savings of each of these measures may
30 be minimal, the cumulative savings will be substantial; now,
31 therefore,
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33 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fifth
34 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2009,
35 that the DOE is requested to review its existing energy



1 conservation strategies and implement inexpensive energy
 2 conservation practices, including cost-effective programs that
 3 encourage energy conservation in the workplace among DOE
 4 personnel, such as department-wide energy conservation meetings
 5 and training, and workplace notices posted in highly visible
 6 areas to encourage energy-saving behavior, such as turning off
 7 unneeded lights, powering down computers and electronics,
 8 raising air conditioner thermostat settings, and reducing
 9 elevator use; and

10
 11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the DOE is requested to report
 12 to the Legislature regarding the measures taken by the DOE to
 13 implement these energy conservation practices not later than
 14 twenty days prior to the convening of Regular Session of 2010;
 15 and

16
 17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 18 Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the Board of
 19 Education, the Executive Director of the Board of Education, the
 20 Executive Director of the Charter School Administrative Office,
 21 the Superintendent of Education, and the State Librarian.

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