

The Twenty-Fifth Legislature
Regular Session of 2010

LATE

THE SENATE

Committee on Energy and Environment

Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair

Senator J. Kalani English, Vice Chair

Committee on Water, Land, Agriculture, and Hawaiian Affairs

Senator Clayton Hee, Chair

Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Vice Chair

State Capitol, Conference Room 225
Thursday, March 25, 2010; 3:00 p.m.

**STATEMENT OF THE ILWU LOCAL 142 ON S.C.R. 99
Requesting the Establishment of a Working Group
to Analyze the Potential Development of Geothermal Energy
as the Primary Energy Source to Meet the Baseload Demand for
Electricity on the Big Island**

The ILWU Local 142 supports S.C.R. 99, which establishes a working group to analyze the impact and viability of developing geothermal energy as the primary energy source to meet electricity demands on the Big Island.

The Big Island's volcanoes have been both blessing and burden for residents of the Big Island. A major burden has been the ongoing vog that results from steady volcanic activity. Not only is vog a nuisance to breathing challenged residents and visitors alike, the vog has also affected agricultural productivity.

However, aside from the magnificent show that lava flows produce, volcanoes are also a sustainable source of energy for the Big Island. This available power source has the potential to provide renewable energy that will ultimately wean Big Island electricity producers permanently from the use of fossil fuels.

S.C.R. 99 intends to establish a working group to analyze how to make that happen, and we support this effort. Representing thousands of members and retirees on the Big Island, the ILWU urges adoption of S.C.R. 99.

Thank you for considering our views.