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# HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE BOARD OF EDUCATION TO INCORPORATE SUSTAINABILITY  
EDUCATION INTO THE SCIENCE CURRICULUM OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

1           WHEREAS, the ability to support and sustain ourselves in  
2 today's world requires an ability to adapt to global changes and  
3 educate ourselves about the need to find the right balance of  
4 growing our economy, keeping our land healthy, and preserving  
5 our natural resources; and

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7           WHEREAS, sustainable use of resources and clean energy are  
8 essential to Hawaii due to the state's geographic isolation; and

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10          WHEREAS, Hawaii's current dependence on foreign oil and  
11 imported food threatens our ability to provide for ourselves;  
12 and

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14          WHEREAS, approximately seventy-seven per cent of the  
15 electricity consumed in Hawaii is generated by burning imported  
16 oil and ninety per cent of the food consumed in the State is  
17 imported; and

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19          WHEREAS, Senate Bill No. 937 (2013), currently being  
20 considered by the Legislature, would establish the Hawaii food  
21 resiliency task force within the Department of Agriculture to  
22 increase food resiliency in the State and address the risk of  
23 food shortages in the event of natural disasters, economic  
24 disruptions, and other external factors; and

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26          WHEREAS, the United States trails in the rapidly growing  
27 clean energy industry, and its educational system and workforce  
28 are not currently equipped to compete on a global scale; and

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30          WHEREAS, the United States Department of Energy and  
31 Department of Education, the United Nations Decade of Education  
32 for Sustainable Development, and the Hawaii 2050 Sustainability



1 Plan, call for the values, activities, and principles inherently  
2 linked to sustainability to be integrated into the educational  
3 endeavors of our schools; and  
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5 WHEREAS, sustainability education must incorporate the four  
6 main areas of sustainability: food; waste; energy; and water;  
7 and  
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9 WHEREAS, the current science curriculum for public high  
10 school students includes physical science, biological science,  
11 earth and space science, environmental science, marine science,  
12 plants and animals in Hawaii, human physiology, physics,  
13 chemistry, zoology, and botany; and  
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15 WHEREAS, the unique character and traditions of the State,  
16 including the ahupuaa system, provide meaningful opportunities  
17 to implement a sustainability education approach that promotes  
18 the Hawaiian culture and provides security for future  
19 generations; and  
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21 WHEREAS, sustainability education should be incorporated  
22 into the current science courses and made available to all  
23 public school students in Hawaii; now, therefore,  
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25 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
26 Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular  
27 Session of 2013, the Senate concurring, that the Board of  
28 Education is requested to incorporate sustainability education  
29 into the science curriculum of public schools; and  
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31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
32 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the  
33 Board of Education and the Superintendent of Education.  
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