HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION TO HAVE THE PUBLIC BENEFITS FEE ADMINISTRATOR CONSIDER INVESTING IN MARKETING AND OFFERING REBATES TO ENCOURAGE PROPER MAINTENANCE OF SOLAR WATER HEATING SYSTEMS.

WHEREAS, the Legislature has made a commitment toward achieving greater energy sustainability and reducing the State's reliance on fossil fuels; and

WHEREAS, it is a priority of the State, expressed through the Hawaii Clean Energy Initiative, to develop a clean energy economy for Hawaii, with a goal of achieving seventy per cent clean energy consumption by 2030; and

WHEREAS, in addition to building investment in Hawaii's economy, developing a clean energy economy will help to keep the billions of dollars spent annually on imported oil within the State; and

WHEREAS, one method of reducing dependence on fossil fuels is to make use of Hawaii's natural resources, such as solar energy; and

WHEREAS, electric utility companies have provided cash rebates for consumers who install residential solar water heating systems and, in the past, state and federal tax credits have also been offered for the installation of solar hot water systems; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature continues to examine various proposals to offer financial incentives to consumers that utilize renewable energy resources, such as solar energy; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2013, the Senate concurring, that the Public Utilities Commission is requested to have the Public Benefits Fee Administrator consider investing in marketing and offering rebates to encourage the proper maintenance of solar water heating systems; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Public Utilities Commission is requested to submit a report of its findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2014; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the Public Utilities Commission.

OFFERED BY:

MAR 1 2 2013