
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION TO ESTABLISH ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND CONSERVATION PROGRAMS FOR AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITIES THAT PRODUCE FOOD FOR LOCAL CONSUMPTION AND TO DEVELOP APPROPRIATE INCENTIVES FOR AGRICULTURAL USES THAT MAY BE SHIFTED TO OFF-PEAK TIMES OR MAY BE AVAILABLE TO PARTICIPATE IN DEMAND RESPONSE TO THE BENEFIT OF THE ELECTRIC GRID.

1 WHEREAS, expanding the agricultural sector in Hawaii is
2 essential to gaining self-sufficiency and food sustainability in
3 the State; and

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5 WHEREAS, energy is a major cost component for those seeking
6 to enter or sustain a business in the agricultural industry and
7 rising energy costs have adversely impacted business viability
8 and feasibility; and

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10 WHEREAS, properly designed programs and incentives for
11 energy efficiency and conservation in agricultural activities
12 such as irrigation, water pumping, refrigeration, and cooling
13 may optimize the efficiency of the electric grid and benefit all
14 electricity customers; and

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16 WHEREAS, efficiency and conservation programs and
17 appropriate rate design incentives can help to support the long-
18 term viability and growth of agriculture in the State; now,
19 therefore,

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21 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
22 Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
23 Session of 2014, the Senate concurring, that the Public
24 Utilities Commission is urged to direct the Public Benefits Fee
25 Administrator to consider energy efficiency and conservation
26 programs to assist the agricultural sector, and to direct
27 Hawaii's electric utilities to offer incentives for agricultural



1 activities that can be shifted to off-peak times or are
2 available to participate in demand response programs; and

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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
5 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the
6 Public Utilities Commission, Program Director of the Public
7 Benefits Fee Administrator, Chairperson of the Board of
8 Agriculture, and the President of each electric utility company
9 operating in Hawaii.

