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## HOUSE 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, that the Public Utilities Commission is urged  
24 to direct the Public Benefits Fee Administrator to consider  
25 energy efficiency and conservation programs to assist the  
26 agricultural sector, and to direct Hawaii's electric utilities  
27 to offer incentives for agricultural activities that can be  
28 shifted to off-peak times or are available to participate in  
29 demand response programs; and  
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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
2 Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the Public  
3 Utilities Commission, Program Director of the Public Benefits  
4 Fee Administrator, Chairperson of the Board of Agriculture, and  
5 the President of each electric utility company operating in  
6 Hawaii.

