
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

ENCOURAGING THE GOVERNOR TO WORK WITH THE LEGISLATURE TO DEVELOP
A HAWAII GREEN INITIATIVE FOR FUELS TRANSITION TO COINCIDE
WITH INCREASED LOCAL FOOD PRODUCTION.

1 WHEREAS, in 2015, Hawaii spent \$5,700,000,000 on imported
2 oil, the equivalent of seven percent of the gross state product,
3 and up to 70 percent of this imported oil is consumed for
4 transportation, with jet fuel being the greatest and growing
5 share; and

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7 WHEREAS, displacing as little as five percent of imported
8 oil with a proven renewable source of fuel could significantly
9 improve Hawaii's energy security, sustainability, and economy by
10 addressing fuel price volatility; and

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12 WHEREAS, in 2008, the United States Department of Energy
13 and the State of Hawaii established the Hawaii Clean Energy
14 Initiative, which set a goal of using clean sources to supply 50
15 percent of the State's electricity needs and 70 percent of
16 overall energy needs, including transportation, by 2030 and Act
17 97, Session Laws of Hawaii 2015, increased this renewable
18 electricity mandate to achieve a 100 percent renewable energy
19 economy in the State by 2045; and

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21 WHEREAS, the Legislature has also created tax incentives,
22 such as the biofuel production tax credit established through
23 Act 202, Session Laws of Hawaii 2016, to support the end goal of
24 energy security and sustainability; and

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26 WHEREAS, the Governor has a stated goal of doubling local
27 food production to rectify the State's current dependence on
28 imports under which, as of 2015, 90 percent of food consumed in
29 Hawaii is imported, including food for schools, hospitals, and
30 prisons, which is a significant increase since statehood, when



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1 the percentage of imported consumed food was closer to 50
2 percent; and
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4 WHEREAS, the Department of Transportation has created a
5 Sustainable Transportation Forum, which includes a focus on
6 renewable fuels among other priorities, and co-sponsored the
7 Hawaii Renewable Transportation Summit in 2016 with the Hawaii
8 State Energy Office and the University of Hawaii Applied
9 Research Laboratory; and
10

11 WHEREAS, at the federal level, the United States
12 Departments of Defense, Agriculture, and Energy have
13 collaborated with each other and the commercial aviation
14 industry to establish a domestic renewable jet fuel
15 manufacturing capacity and have included Hawaii in this
16 Commercial Aviation Alternative Fuel Initiative; and
17

18 WHEREAS, the federal Sustainable Alternative Jet Fuel
19 Research and Development Strategy, published in 2016, sets out
20 prioritized federal research and development goals and
21 objectives to address key scientific and technical challenges
22 that inhibit the development, production, and use of
23 economically viable alternative jet fuels at a commercial scale;
24 and
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26 WHEREAS, in 2016, the Obama administration released a Mid-
27 Century Strategy for Deep Decarbonization, which sets a goal of
28 80 percent de-carbonization by 2050 and calls for the creation,
29 preparation, and implementation of a plan by 2030 to reach that
30 goal; and
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32 WHEREAS, Hawaii has opted in to the updated renewable fuel
33 standard established by the Energy Security and Independence Act
34 of 2007, which is a standard that requires obligated parties to
35 sell a certain amount of biofuels per year through 2022, and
36 that has been met to date by Hawaii petroleum distributors
37 importing biofuels; and
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39 WHEREAS, Hawaii has a limited manufacturing sector that
40 represents three percent of the gross state product, which is
41 comprised of petroleum and gas refining; and



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1 WHEREAS, increased food production integrated with
2 renewable fuel production will stimulate new storage, hub and
3 depot centers, and processing plants, and the development of an
4 integrated food and biofuel supply chain within Hawaii would
5 create storage, pre-processing, and conversion refinery plants;
6 and
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8 WHEREAS, implementing food production concurrently with
9 biofuel feedstock production will create economy of scale,
10 provide additional revenue for farmers, and reduce the overall
11 costs of local food production; and
12

13 WHEREAS, the advancement of a vibrant bio-economy and
14 biofuels supply chain in Hawaii, complementary with food
15 production, could help address the loss of jobs from plantation
16 and refinery closures and mitigate the risks of petroleum supply
17 and price shocks, especially to Hawaii's vital tourism sector;
18 and
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20 WHEREAS, each populated island in Hawaii has solid,
21 construction, green, food, and human waste processing facilities
22 that are at or approaching disposal capacity within the next
23 five to thirty years and commercial enterprises in the
24 continental United States have shown that these wastes are
25 viable feedstock for renewable fuel production; and
26

27 WHEREAS, initiatives, such as the Hawaii Clean Energy
28 Initiative, have developed and created industries and jobs
29 throughout Hawaii with the creation of friendly policy, such as
30 new market, high technology, and renewable energy tax credits;
31 similarly, a Hawaii Green Initiative for Fuels Transition could
32 spur the creation of production, new market, refinery and
33 conversion tech tax credits, carbon credits, land use subsidies
34 and set asides, crop insurance, sustainability and conservation
35 credits, and other mechanisms to stimulate integrated food and
36 fuel production; now, therefore,
37

38 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
39 Twenty-ninth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
40 of 2017, the Senate concurring, that the Governor is encouraged
41 to work with the Legislature to develop a Hawaii Green
42 Initiative for Fuels Transition to coincide with increased local



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1 food production to encourage the significant growth,
2 development, intensification, and expansion of agriculture
3 through the incorporation of both dedicated food and biofuel
4 feedstock growth to achieve the goals of food and fuel
5 sustainability and security; and
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7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
8 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Director
9 of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism, Chair of the
10 Board of Agriculture, Chair of the Public Utilities Commission,
11 Administrator of the State Energy Office, President and Chair of
12 the Board of Regents of the University of Hawaii, Dean of the
13 University of Hawaii College of Tropical Agriculture and Human
14 Resources, Commander of the United States Pacific Command,
15 Chairs of the Hawaii Energy Policy Forum, President of the
16 Hawaii Renewable Energy Alliance, Executive Director of the
17 Commercial Aviation Alternative Fuel Initiative, President of
18 Hawaii Farmers Union United, and President of the Hawaii Farm
19 Bureau.
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OFFERED BY: _____



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