
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

DESIGNATING JANUARY 24, 2017 AS "BIOENERGY DAY" TO RAISE
AWARENESS OF THE SIGNIFICANT ENVIRONMENTAL AND ECONOMIC
BENEFITS OF BIOENERGY AND ITS MANY APPLICATIONS.

1 WHEREAS, to power our society, the United States currently
2 relies heavily on coal, oil, and natural gas, which are finite
3 resources that will eventually dwindle, become too expensive to
4 harness, or become too environmentally damaging to obtain; and
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6 WHEREAS, bioenergy is a renewable resource that uses
7 organic materials that can constantly be replenished to generate
8 heating, cooling, or electricity extremely reliably; and
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10 WHEREAS, more than twenty per cent of Hawaii's total
11 renewable energy came from bioenergy sources in 2015 and almost
12 half of the nation's total renewable energy came from bioenergy
13 sources in 2012; and
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15 WHEREAS, bioenergy power producers across the nation, as
16 well as here locally, help reduce reliance on non-renewable
17 resources, fight climate change, and sustain tens of thousands
18 of jobs across the country; and
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20 WHEREAS, the Department of Business, Economic Development,
21 and Tourism estimates that Hawaii has the potential to achieve a
22 biofuels industry capable of generating energy that is the
23 equivalent of one hundred and three hundred million gallons of
24 oil per year, creating thousands of jobs and annual revenues of
25 between \$500,000,000 to \$1,000,000,000, driven in part by
26 potential customers in the aviation and military industry; and
27



H.C.R. NO. 12

1 WHEREAS, there are abundant non-woody plants and energy
2 grasses in Hawaii that can serve as sources of bioenergy
3 locally; and
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5 WHEREAS, bioenergy has the potential to help drive local
6 agriculture while simultaneously helping to maintain the State's
7 agricultural greenspaces; and
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9 WHEREAS, more than twenty organizations, government
10 entities, investors, universities, and bioenergy industry
11 experts are gathering at the Hawaii State Capitol on January 24,
12 2017, for the Bioeconomy Hawaii Forum 2017; and
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14 WHEREAS, the Bioeconomy Hawaii Forum is a fast-paced and
15 multi-disciplinary conference on sustainable energy and
16 environment focusing on the global perspective of the
17 bioeconomy, biopower, and biofuel production that are vital for
18 Hawaii and the rest of the world; and
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20 WHEREAS, the goal of the forum is to bring better
21 understating of bioenergy and the benefits it brings to the
22 State; and
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24 WHEREAS, bioenergy will continue to be a key element of
25 Hawaii's renewable energy future moving forward; now, therefore,
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27 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
28 Twenty-ninth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
29 of 2017, the Senate concurring, that January 24, 2017, be
30 designated as "Bioenergy Day" in Hawaii in honor of the
31 Bioeconomy Hawaii Forum's goal to raise awareness of the
32 significant environmental and economic benefits of bioenergy;
33 and
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35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
36 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, the
37 Director of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism, and the
38 Energy Program Administrator of the Hawaii State Energy Office,
39 and the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Biomass
40 Power Association.
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OFFERED BY:

