
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE HAWAII CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION AND ADAPTATION COMMISSION TO CONVENE AN ELECTRIC VEHICLES TASK FORCE TO STUDY THE FEASIBILITY OF A COMPLETE TRANSITION TO ELECTRIC VEHICLES BY THE YEAR 2050.

1 WHEREAS, carbon dioxide is a greenhouse gas that retains
2 heat that becomes trapped within the Earth's atmosphere, thereby
3 raising global temperatures, contributing to rapidly melting
4 glacial ice and raising sea levels; and

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6 WHEREAS, according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric
7 Administration, the global average atmospheric carbon dioxide in
8 2018 was 407.4 parts per million; and

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10 WHEREAS, the last time that the atmospheric carbon dioxide
11 amounts were at this level was more than three million years
12 ago; and

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14 WHEREAS, cars with internal combustion engines burn fossil
15 fuels, thereby emitting carbon dioxide into the atmosphere; and

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17 WHEREAS, according to the Environmental Protection Agency,
18 transportation accounts for twenty-nine percent of total United
19 States greenhouse gas emissions, making transportation the
20 largest contributor of United States greenhouse gas emissions;
21 and

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23 WHEREAS, according to media reports, in the year 2018,
24 there were 906,237 vehicles and trailers registered on Oahu,
25 which is a dramatic increase from just fifty years ago, where
26 there were only 321,947 vehicles and trailers registered on
27 Oahu; and

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29 WHEREAS, increased levels of carbon dioxide have
30 contributed to global climate change; and

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H.C.R. NO. 53

1 WHEREAS, as Hawaii is uniquely threatened by global climate
2 change, effects of global climate change include, but are not
3 limited to, mass coral bleaching, eroding shorelines, and
4 stronger hurricanes and storms; and

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6 WHEREAS, the cost of rebuilding and repairing after
7 environmental catastrophes will run into the hundreds of
8 millions, if not billions, of dollars; and

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10 WHEREAS, in response to the 2018 flooding of Kauai and
11 Oahu, the State appropriated \$100 million and \$25 million,
12 respectively, for relief efforts; and

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14 WHEREAS, a zero-emission vehicle is a vehicle that emits no
15 carbon dioxide from its onboard source of power; and

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17 WHEREAS, in recent years, zero-emission vehicles have been
18 rising in popularity, as an alternative to fossil fuel-powered
19 vehicles; and

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21 WHEREAS, the State of California has enacted a Zero-
22 Emission Vehicle Program, requiring auto manufacturers to offer
23 for sale a select number of zero-emission cars, such as full
24 battery-electric, hydrogen fuel cell, and plug-in hybrid-
25 electric vehicles; and

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27 WHEREAS, zero-emission energy production is energy
28 production that produces no carbon dioxide during its generation
29 and dissemination to consumers; and

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31 WHEREAS, in recent years, various types of zero-emission
32 energy production have been rising in popularity, such as wind
33 and solar energy; and

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35 WHEREAS, according to the United States Energy Information
36 Administration, in 2016, wind power generators accounted for
37 eight percent of the total operating electric generating
38 capacity in the nation; and

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40 WHEREAS, in the State of Hawaii, wind power generation
41 produced six percent of all electricity produced; and

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1 WHEREAS, in 2017, solar power generation grew over forty-
2 three percent to make up over 1.9 percent of all electricity
3 generated in the United States; and
4

5 WHEREAS, in the State of Hawaii, solar power generation
6 produced 11.8 percent of all electricity produced; now,
7 therefore,
8

9 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
10 Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of
11 2020, the Senate concurring, that the Hawaii Climate Change
12 Mitigation and Adaptation Commission is requested to convene an
13 electric vehicle task force; and
14

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to
16 include the following:
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- 18 (1) The co-chairpersons of the Hawaii Climate Change
19 Mitigation and Adaptation Commission, or the co-
20 chairpersons' designees, who shall serve as the co-
21 chairpersons of the task force;
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- 23 (2) The Director of the City and County of Honolulu Office
24 of Climate Change, Sustainability, and Resiliency, or
25 the Director's designee;
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- 27 (3) The Director of the Office of Environmental Quality
28 Control, or the Director's designee;
29
- 30 (4) The President of the Senate, or the President's
31 designee;
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- 33 (5) The Speaker of the House of Representatives, or the
34 Speaker's designee;
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- 36 (6) The Director of the Hawaii State Energy Office, or the
37 Director's designee;
38
- 39 (7) The Chairman of Hawaiian Electric Company, Inc., or
40 the Chairman's designee; and
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H.C.R. NO. 53

1 (8) The President of the Hawaii Auto Dealers Association,
2 or the President's designee; and
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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that an initial meeting of the task
5 force be convened no later than July 1, 2020; and
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7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to:
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9 (1) Perform a comparative study on the costs incurred for
10 an average Hawaii family to switch from a fossil-fuel
11 burning vehicle to a zero-emission vehicle;
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13 (2) Perform a comprehensive analysis on the current and
14 future supply of zero-emission vehicles in the State;
15 and
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17 (3) Determine the feasibility and cost impact of
18 completing a transition from vehicles with internal
19 combustion engines to zero-emission vehicles by the
20 year 2050; and
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22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to
23 submit a report of its findings and recommendations, including
24 any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than forty
25 days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2021; and
26

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force be dissolved on
28 June 30, 2021; and
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30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
31 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Hawaii's
32 congressional delegation; Administrator of the United States
33 Environmental Protection Agency; Executive Directory of the
34 United Nations Environment Programme; Governor; Director of the
35 City and County of Honolulu Office of Climate Change,
36 Sustainability, and Resiliency; Director of the Office of
37 Environmental Quality Control; President of the Senate; Speaker
38



H.C.R. NO. 53

1 of the House of Representatives; Director of the Hawaii State
2 Energy Office; Chairman of Hawaiian Electric Company, Inc.; and
3 President of the Hawaii Auto Dealers Association.
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OFFERED BY: _____



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