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## HOUSE RESOLUTION

AFFIRMING THAT THE CONTINUED PARTICIPATION OF THE UNITED STATES IN THE PARIS AGREEMENT IS OF PARAMOUNT IMPORTANCE TO THE STATE OF HAWAII AND TO THE NATION, REQUESTING THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES TO REFRAIN FROM WITHDRAWING THE UNITED STATES FROM THE PARIS AGREEMENT, AND REQUESTING THAT THE MAJORITY LEADER OF THE UNITED STATES SENATE AND THE SPEAKER OF THE UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TAKE ALL ACTION NECESSARY TO BLOCK THE PRESIDENT'S WITHDRAWAL OF THE UNITED STATES FROM THE PARIS AGREEMENT.

1           WHEREAS, in December 2015, representatives of one hundred  
2 ninety-seven nations who are parties to the United Nation's  
3 Framework Convention on Climate Change (Convention) completed a  
4 proposed agreement, known as the Paris Agreement, to take  
5 comprehensive action to drastically reduce greenhouse gas  
6 emissions, with the following principal provisions:

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8           (1) Long-term temperature goal: the agreement reaffirms  
9 the goal of limiting global mean temperature increase  
10 to well below two degrees Celsius above pre-industrial  
11 levels, while pursuing efforts to limit the increase  
12 to 1.5 degrees Celsius;

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14           (2) Global peaking and "climate neutrality": to achieve  
15 the temperature goal, parties will strive to reach  
16 global peaking of greenhouse gas emissions as soon as  
17 possible, recognizing peaking will take longer for  
18 developing country parties, so as to achieve a balance  
19 (net zero emissions) between anthropogenic emissions  
20 by sources and removals by sinks of greenhouse gases  
21 in the second half of the century;

22  
23           (3) Mitigation: the agreement establishes binding  
24 commitments by all parties to prepare, communicate,  
25 and maintain a nationally determined contribution; to  
26 pursue domestic measures to achieve them; and to  
27 communicate revised, higher nationally determined  
28 contributions every five years;

29



1           (4)   Adaptation: the agreement establishes a global goal  
2                   for adaptation, including enhancing adaptive capacity,  
3                   strengthening resilience and reducing vulnerability to  
4                   climate change in the context of the temperature goal;  
5                   and

6  
7           (5)   Financial support: the Paris Agreement reaffirms the  
8                   obligations of developed countries to support the  
9                   efforts of developing country parties to build clean,  
10                  climate resilient futures, while for the first time  
11                  encouraging voluntary contributions by other parties;  
12                  and

13  
14           WHEREAS, on November 4, 2016, the Paris Agreement took  
15           effect, after having been ratified by at least fifty-five  
16           parties to the Convention, including the United States,  
17           accounting in total for at least an estimated fifty-five percent  
18           of the total global greenhouse gas emissions. As of 2020, one  
19           hundred eighty-nine of the nations who are parties to the  
20           Convention have ratified the Paris Agreement; and

21  
22           WHEREAS, in 2017, the Hawaii State Legislature enacted  
23           Act 32, Session Laws 2017, which among other things created the  
24           Hawaii Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission and  
25           committed the State to contribute to the achievement of the  
26           Paris Agreement goals; and

27  
28           WHEREAS, in June, 2017, President Donald Trump announced  
29           his intention for the United States to withdraw from the Paris  
30           Agreement; and on November 4, 2019, U.S. Secretary of State  
31           Michael Pompeo gave notice to the Convention of the intent of  
32           the United States to withdraw from the Paris Agreement, with the  
33           withdrawal to become effective on November 4, 2020 (the day  
34           after the 2020 presidential election); and

35  
36           WHEREAS, a U.S. withdrawal is likely to have a serious  
37           detrimental impact on the future implementation of the Paris  
38           Agreement, which relies on the voluntary commitments of its  
39           member nations; and under the approach, as taken by the Paris  
40           Agreement, major developing nations, such as China - the world's  
41           largest greenhouse gas emitter - and India, were induced for the  
42           first time to make commitments to reduce greenhouse gas



1 emissions. The prospective withdrawal of the United States, the  
2 world's second largest emitter, threatens to reverse the initial  
3 momentum under the Paris Agreement and to embolden other nations  
4 to renounce or delay their own commitments; now, therefore,  
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6 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
7 Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of  
8 2020, that the Legislature affirms that the continued  
9 participation of the United States in the Paris Agreement is of  
10 paramount importance to the State of Hawaii, to the nation, and  
11 the world; and  
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13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the President of the United  
14 States shall be respectfully requested, through the transmittal  
15 of a certified copy of this Resolution, to refrain from  
16 withdrawing from the Paris Agreement and to instead commit the  
17 United States to good faith efforts to meet its obligations  
18 under the Paris Agreement; and  
19

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Majority Leader of the U.S.  
21 Senate and the Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives be  
22 requested, through the transmittal of a certified copy of this  
23 Resolution, to take all action necessary to block the  
24 President's intended withdrawal of the United States from the  
25 Paris Agreement; and  
26

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
28 Resolution be transmitted to the Office of the President of the  
29 United States, the Majority Leader of the U.S. Senate, the  
30 Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Congressional  
31 Delegation of the State of Hawaii, the Governor, and each member  
32 of the Hawaii Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation  
33 Commission.  
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OFFERED BY:

Guthrie Thielon

[Signature]

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[Signature]

[Signature]

Della A. Belletti



H.R. NO. 140

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