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## SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

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ENGAGING, ENDORSING, ACCEPTING, AND ADOPTING THE NEW YORK  
DECLARATION ON FORESTS TO ACHIEVE THE UNITED NATIONS PARIS  
AGREEMENT AND THE 2030 AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT,  
SPECIFICALLY SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 15, LIFE ON LAND.

1 WHEREAS, Hawai'i is recognized as a global partner and local  
2 leader in sustainability, peace, climate change adaptation, and  
3 human rights due to its adoption of global standards of social  
4 justice to improve the well-being of Hawai'i's islands and the  
5 world; and

6  
7 WHEREAS, in September 2015, the United Nations General  
8 Assembly adopted the historic "Transforming Our World: The 2030  
9 Agenda for Sustainable Development" (2030 Agenda), a  
10 comprehensive, compassionate, creative, and courageous plan of  
11 action to end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure that all  
12 people enjoy peace and prosperity; and

13  
14 WHEREAS, the 2030 Agenda includes seventeen Sustainable  
15 Development Goals (SDGs), one hundred sixty-nine targets, and  
16 two hundred thirty indicators upon which general agreement has  
17 been reached to measure, monitor, and mobilize; and

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19 WHEREAS, the Hawaiian islands are home to forests that play  
20 a pivotal role in Hawai'i's natural environment, both  
21 historically and for future generations, by providing watershed,  
22 soil, and habitat protection; and

23  
24 WHEREAS, Hawai'i's forests cover two million acres,  
25 approximately half of the entire land mass of Hawai'i, and  
26 Hawai'i has a strong commitment to planting, management, and  
27 natural regeneration of its forests; and  
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1 WHEREAS, Hawai'i's forests are critically important to local  
2 culture, the people, and perpetuation of pristine environments  
3 and provide aesthetic value, enjoyment, water conservation, and  
4 improved air quality; and  
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6 WHEREAS, the New York Declaration on Forests (NYDF)  
7 provides a proactive and participatory human rights based  
8 approach to protect and restore forests that supports the scope  
9 and significance of the United Nations SDGs; and  
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11 WHEREAS, the NYDF was created and launched at the United  
12 Nations Climate Summit at United Nations Headquarters in  
13 September 2014, receiving endorsements by two hundred entities,  
14 including governments, corporations, civil society, and  
15 indigenous peoples; and  
16

17 WHEREAS, the NYDF outlines ten global targets related to  
18 protecting and restoring forests, which, if realized, have the  
19 potential to reduce annual carbon emission by 4.5 to 8.8 billion  
20 tons of carbon dioxide - the equivalent of the annual emissions  
21 of the United States; and  
22

23 WHEREAS, the ten goals of the NYDF are:  
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- 25 (1) Stop forest loss;
- 26
- 27 (2) Eliminate deforestation from agricultural activities;
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- 29 (3) Reduce non-agricultural deforestation;
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- 31 (4) Support alternatives to deforestation for subsistence
- 32 farming, fuel, and other basic needs;
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- 34 (5) Restore forests;
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- 36 (6) Quantify forest conservation and restoration targets
- 37 for 2030 as part of the 2030 Agenda SDGs;
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- 39 (7) Reduce emissions from deforestation and forest
- 40 degradation in accordance with global climate
- 41 agreements;
- 42



1 (8) Provide financing for forest action;

2  
3 (9) Reward countries and jurisdictions that reduce forest  
4 emissions; and

5  
6 (10) Strengthen governance, empower communities, and  
7 recognize the rights of indigenous peoples; and

8  
9 WHEREAS, adopting the NYDF can accelerate progress with new  
10 partnerships to achieve the United Nations Paris Agreement and  
11 the United Nations 2030 Agenda; and

12  
13 WHEREAS, the ten goals of the NYDF coincide with the  
14 seventeen SDGs and provide an agenda for grassroots and global  
15 action, but it is up to individuals, communities, and states to  
16 generate the political will necessary to achieve these goals;  
17 and

18  
19 WHEREAS, Hawai'i is already participating in global efforts  
20 to empower and engage everyone and protect the planet and end  
21 poverty, regularly attending sessions of the United Nations  
22 Framework Convention on Climate Change, United Nations Human  
23 Rights Council, and United Nations High Level Political Forum;  
24 and

25  
26 WHEREAS, in Hawai'i, college, community, and Capitol  
27 discussions on the United Nations Framework Convention on  
28 Climate Change Conference of Parties annual results and the  
29 United Nations High Level Political Forum follow-up and review  
30 of the SDGs continue to generate genuine insight into how both  
31 sets of goals are being realized in the Hawaiian Islands and  
32 what next steps are needed to continue Hawai'i's forward  
33 momentum; and

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35 WHEREAS, adopting the NYDF in Hawai'i will allow for greater  
36 coordination and communication between Hawai'i and other NYDF  
37 partners to share promising practices and support further  
38 improvements for Hawai'i's forests; and

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40 WHEREAS, adopting the NYDF will link Hawai'i's forest  
41 practitioners to a global network with relevant expertise and



1 capacity to support the implementation of the forest elements of  
2 commitments under the Paris Agreement; now, therefore,

3  
4 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-first  
5 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2022, the  
6 House of Representatives concurring, that this body engages,  
7 endorses, accepts, and adopts the New York Declaration on  
8 Forests to achieve the United Nations Paris Agreement and 2030  
9 Agenda for Sustainable Development, specifically Sustainable  
10 Development Goal 15, Life on Land; and

11  
12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature urges federal  
13 leaders and the nation to embrace the goals of the NYDF and the  
14 2030 Agenda and make sustainable development the centerpiece of  
15 national social and sustainable policies; and

16  
17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
18 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the United Nations  
19 Secretary General, United Nations General Assembly President,  
20 United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Executive  
21 Secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate  
22 Change, United Nations High Level Political Forum, President of  
23 the United States, Vice President of the United States, Speaker  
24 of the United States House of Representatives, Minority Leader  
25 of the United States House of Representatives, Majority Leader  
26 of the United States Senate, Minority Leader of the United  
27 States Senate, members of Hawai'i's congressional delegation,  
28 NYDF Platform Secretariat, Governor, and mayor of each county.

