HOUSE RESOLUTION

URGING MICROSOFT TO CONSIDER BUILDING A DATA CENTER IN HAWAII.

1   WHEREAS, Microsoft has made numerous investments to people,
2   organizations, and the planet and has also demonstrated its deep
3   commitment to the State; and
4
5   WHEREAS, Microsoft employs more than sixty-five employees
6   throughout the State, who in turn have engaged in two hundred
7   eighty-four hours of volunteer work; and
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9   WHEREAS, six hundred sixty-three nonprofits in the State
10 have received cash and in-kind donations from Microsoft; and
11
12 WHEREAS, Microsoft has demonstrated its commitment to
13 workforce development and cybersecurity in the State via a grant
14 to the Hawaiʻi Community College and the American Association of
15 Community Colleges' Cyber Skills for All Initiative, which helps
16 fund and provide technical assistance to community colleges to
17 accelerate their cybersecurity programs; and
18
19 WHEREAS, this initiative is part of Microsoft's national
20 campaign to help community colleges work to train and recruit
21 people for jobs in the cybersecurity workforce, with a goal of
22 two hundred fifty thousand cybersecurity workers by 2025,
23 representing half of the country's workforce shortage; and
24
25 WHEREAS, Microsoft has also established several local
26 partnerships in Hawaii; and
27
28 WHEREAS, with support from a Microsoft grant, Goodwill is
29 equipping job seekers and career advancers with digital skills
30 aligned with in-demand occupations needed for post-pandemic
31 employment, including job seekers learning in the top three
32 levels of digital skills training: productivity software, entry
33 level digital skills, and mid-level and occupation-specific
34 digital skills; and

1
2   WHEREAS, Microsoft also has an official Digital Alliance
3 partnership in the State, which focuses on STEM and computer
4 science for youth, and a partnership with the Chamber of
5 Commerce Hawaii focused on entrepreneurs, small businesses, and
6 education; and
7
8   WHEREAS, Microsoft is also committed to improving broadband
9 access in the State through its Airband Initiative, which
10 advances digital equity access to affordable Internet,
11 affordable devices, and digital skills as a platform for
12 empowerment and digital transformation; and
13
14   WHEREAS, because environmental issues are also increasingly
15 affecting living conditions and economies throughout the globe,
16 Microsoft has made a commitment to be carbon negative, water
17 positive, and zero waste by 2030, and to protect ecosystems by
18 developing a Planetary Computer; and
19
20   WHEREAS, additionally, through new digital tools, Microsoft
21 can assist in decarbonizing operations and infrastructure, which
22 was the modification behind the Microsoft Cloud for
23 Sustainability; and
24
25   WHEREAS, two seismic shifts in society are happening at the
26 same time: the digitization of nearly everything, in what some
27 call the fourth industrial revolution, and a move toward
28 renewable energy driven by the climate crisis and other world
29 events; and
30
31   WHEREAS, at the confluence of these movements are thousands
32 of data centers operating around the clock to support a wide
33 spectrum of critical services; and
34
35   WHEREAS, data centers are facilities that centralize an
36 organization's information technology operations and equipment
37 for the purposes of storing, processing, and disseminating data
38 and applications; and
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40   WHEREAS, according to a 2017 report released by the United
41 States Chamber Technology Engagement Center, the average data

1 center adds $32,500,000 in economic activity to its local
2 community each year; and
3
4   WHEREAS, in 2021, Microsoft announced plans to build fifty
5 to one hundred new data centers across the globe each year; and
6
7   WHEREAS, establishing a Microsoft data center in Hawaii
8 would have a positive impact on the State's economy and would
9 further Microsoft's longstanding commitment to the State; now,
10 therefore,
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12   BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
13 Thirty-second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
14 Session of 2023, that Microsoft is urged to consider building a
15 data center in Hawaii; and
16
17   BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
18 Resolution be transmitted to the Chief Executive Officer at
19 Microsoft and Vice President of Global Data Center Construction
20 at Microsoft.