

MAR 08 2024

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE NATIONAL ENERGY LABORATORY OF HAWAII AUTHORITY TO
WORK WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT MANOA TO DEVELOP NEW
MASTER AND STRATEGIC PLANS.

1 WHEREAS, the State has invested over \$130,000,000 in the
2 creation and operation of the Hawaii Ocean Science and
3 Technology Park (HOST Park) located in Kailua-Kona; and
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5 WHEREAS, the HOST Park is located on lands owned and
6 operated by the National Energy Laboratory of Hawaii Authority
7 (NELHA); and
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9 WHEREAS, NELHA's current master and strategic plan were
10 last updated in 2011 and 2012, respectively, necessitating the
11 need for both plans to be updated; and
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13 WHEREAS, NELHA's HOST Park represents a clear opportunity
14 to reassess how renewable energy technologies have advanced and
15 what roles they can play in the State moving forward; and
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17 WHEREAS, in a Technical Memorandum prepared by the Pacific
18 International Center for High Technology Research (PICHTR),
19 PICHTR noted that "the large amount of interest generated in the
20 State of Hawaii by the Hawaii Clean Energy Initiative affords a
21 great opportunity for NELHA to market itself as a hub for energy
22 research and commercialization"; and
23

24 WHEREAS, there are opportunities to explore how to leverage
25 byproducts of Ocean Thermal Energy Conversion (OTEC) based on
26 renewable energy technologies at HOST Park to further support
27 other nascent clean energy and clean transportation initiatives;
28 and
29

30 WHEREAS, the College of Tropical Agriculture and Human
31 Resources (CTAHR) at the University of Hawaii at Manoa has



1 conducted studies showing the potential benefits of cold water
2 irrigation in agriculture; and

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4 WHEREAS, there is growing interest in hydrogen as an energy
5 source, especially in fuel cells where water is the only
6 byproduct and renewable hydrogen can be obtained from ammonia
7 through the OTEC process; and

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9 WHEREAS, the University of Hawaii at Manoa College of
10 Engineering, CTAHR, the Shidler College of Business, the School
11 of Ocean and Earth Science and Technology, and the Office of
12 Innovation and Commercialization have the expertise necessary to
13 work with NELHA to develop its next strategic plan focused on
14 research and commercialization of OTEC and renewable energy;
15 now, therefore,

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17 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-second
18 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2024, the
19 House of Representatives concurring, that NELHA is requested to
20 work with the University of Hawaii at Manoa to develop new
21 master and strategic plans; and

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23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that NELHA's development of new
24 strategic and master plans is requested to be led by the College
25 of Engineering, and assisted by CTAHR, the Shidler College of
26 Business, the School of Ocean and Earth Science Technology, and
27 the Office of Innovation and Commercialization; and

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29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that NELHA's new strategic plan is
30 requested to be grounded in its statutory mission established
31 pursuant to section 227D-2, Hawaii Revised Statutes; and

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33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the updated plans are requested
34 to include the research and pathways towards the
35 commercialization of renewable energy technologies, including
36 OTEC, and their byproducts; and

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38 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that NELHA is requested to submit a
39 report to the Legislature on the progress towards new master and
40 strategic plans, including identification of new potential
41 public and private sector partnerships, no later than twenty



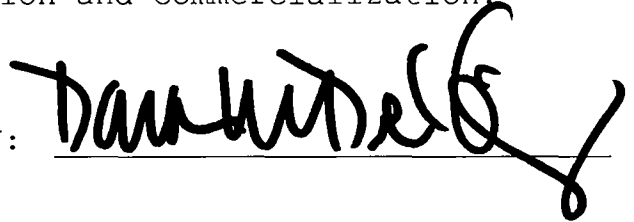
S.C.R. NO. 195

1 days prior to the convening of the Legislative Session of 2025;
2 and

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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
5 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Executive Director
6 of the National Energy Laboratory of Hawaii Authority and
7 President of the University of Hawaii System, who is requested
8 to then transmit copies of this Concurrent Resolution to the
9 appropriate representatives of the College of Engineering,
10 College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources, Shidler
11 College of Business, School of Ocean and Earth Science
12 Technology, and Office of Innovation and Commercialization.

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OFFERED BY: _____

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dan Hirtle", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and cursive.