S.R. NO. 108

MAR 0 8 2024

SENATE RESOLUTION

ENCOURAGING THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND HAWAII STATE ENERGY OFFICE TO INCREASE THE STATE'S USAGE OF BIODIESEL AND TO FUND PROGRAMS THAT SUPPORT THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE BIODIESEL INDUSTRY.

WHEREAS, sustainable agriculture, food security, and energy 1 security are critical priorities for the State; and 2 3 4 WHEREAS, the coronavirus disease 2019 pandemic highlighted 5 the need to diversify the State's economy and focus on local food and energy production; and 6 7 8 WHEREAS, there is a global need to reduce petroleum dependence and greenhouse gas emissions, including the emissions 9 produced by diesel engines; and 10 11 WHEREAS, biodiesel, which is made from plant-based oils and 12 animal fats, offers a safe and sustainable alternative to 13 petroleum-based fuels; and 14 15 WHEREAS, many crops can be used for biodiesel production, 16 including pongamia trees, sunflowers, and safflower; and 17 18 19 WHEREAS, byproducts from biodiesel production can be used as livestock feed and in the food, pharmaceutical, and cosmetic 20 industries; and 21 22 WHEREAS, a single biodiesel refinery is expected to create 23 more than \$25,000,000 in revenue, \$1,000,000 in general excise 24 tax revenue, and hundreds of jobs for the State's residents; and 25 26 WHEREAS, the biodiesel industry's growth will also provide 27 additional opportunities for agricultural research, further 28 diversifying the State's economy and helping to grow the 29 agricultural sector; and 30 31 WHEREAS, the growth of crops for biodiesel fuels will help 32 33 the State to reach its mandate of one hundred percent renewable energy by 2045; now, therefore, 34

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1 2 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-second 3 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2024, 4 that the Department of Agriculture and Hawaii State Energy 5 Office are encouraged to increase the State's usage of biodiesel and to fund programs that support the development of the 6 7 biodiesel industry; and 8 9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Governor; Lieutenant Governor; 10 Chairperson of the Board of Agriculture; and Director of 11 Business, Economic Development, and Tourism. 12 13 OFFERED BY: 14 15