H.R. NO. ¹⁸² H.D. 1

HOUSE RESOLUTION

DECLARING A PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY RELATING TO CLIMATE CHANGE AND REQUESTING STATEWIDE COORDINATION TO IDENTIFY, PLAN FOR, AND CREATE CROSS-SECTOR SOLUTIONS TO STRENGTHEN HAWAII'S PUBLIC HEALTH RESPONSE TO THE CLIMATE CRISIS.

1 WHEREAS, humanity's runaway greenhouse gas emissions have 2 contributed to accelerated climate change, characterized by 3 rising global temperatures, sea level rise, ecological collapse, 4 and the increased frequency and intensity of extreme weather 5 events; and

7 WHEREAS, as stated in House Concurrent Resolution No. 192 8 (2023), scientific consensus indicates public health will be impacted because climate change will increase the incidence of 9 10 increased heat, vector-borne diseases, crop failure and food 11 insecurity, water insecurity, waterborne diseases, extreme weather events, air pollution, and adverse mental health impacts 12 due to these climate stressors and collective eco-grief, which 13 14 refers to the deep sense of loss and overwhelming emotional response felt when learning about and experiencing the 15 catastrophic destruction of the environment due to climate 16 change; and 17

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19 WHEREAS, climate change adversely impacts the social 20 determinants of health, which include food security, economic 21 stability, strong social and community support networks, healthy 22 environments, and access to quality health care and emergency 23 services; and

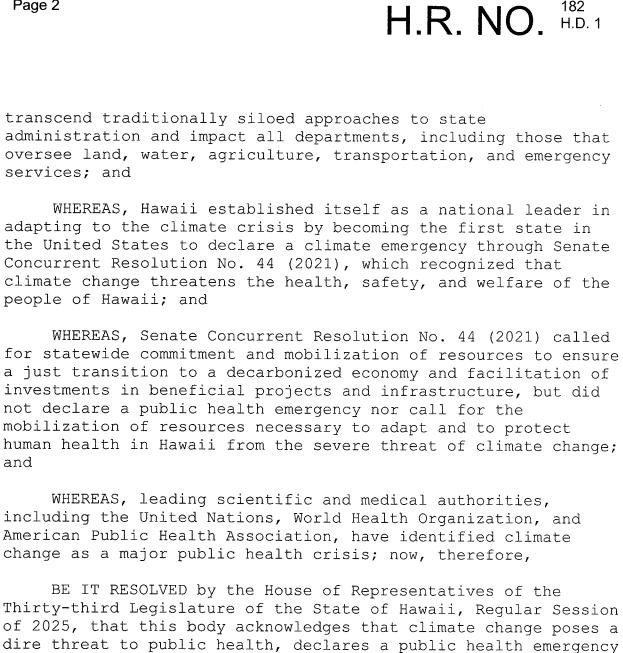
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25 WHEREAS, as an island state, Hawaii remains particularly 26 vulnerable to the effects of climate change, thereby endangering 27 the health, safety, and welfare of its residents, warranting 28 preemptive and protective action; and

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30 WHEREAS, climate change and its associated health impacts31 are not limited to the purview of the Department of Health, but

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dire threat to public health, declares a public health emergency in the State, and requests entities statewide to actively examine how the climate considerations within their departments impact human health and coordinate with other departments to identify, plan for, and create cross-sector solutions to strengthen Hawaii's public health response to the climate crisis; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Governor; Attorney General; Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources; Director of the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development; Director of Health; Director of Transportation; Chairperson of the Board



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of Agriculture; and mayors of the City and County of Honolulu
and counties of Maui, Kauai, and Hawaii.

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