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## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

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REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH'S ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH  
ADMINISTRATION TO FORM A HAWAII CLIMATE ASSESSMENT TASK  
FORCE TO ASSESS THE EFFECTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE AND GLOBAL  
WARMING ON THE STATE.

1 WHEREAS, the United Nations' Intergovernmental Panel on  
2 Climate Change has concluded that the global climate is warming  
3 and projects an increase in global mean surface temperatures of  
4 two to six degrees Fahrenheit by the end of the 21<sup>st</sup> century,  
5 leading to an increase in the sea level of six to 37 inches; and  
6

7 WHEREAS, Hawaii's sea level has risen six to 14 inches per  
8 century, and is expected to rise another 17 to 25 inches by  
9 2100, resulting in flooding of low-lying property, erosion of  
10 beautiful beaches, saltwater contamination of our drinking  
11 water, and decreased longevity of low-lying roads, causeways,  
12 and bridges; and  
13

14 WHEREAS, Hawaii would be directly affected by worsening  
15 global weather patterns that can cause potentially catastrophic  
16 effects on coastal areas; and  
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18 WHEREAS, recent weather patterns have created warming  
19 trends that have jeopardized the health and well-being of  
20 residents of communities and the natural resources on which they  
21 rely; and  
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23 WHEREAS, the recent heavy rains, flooding, and erosion have  
24 negatively affected all communities across the state as well as  
25 the state's agricultural and tourism industries by causing  
26 substantial damage to property, and have resulted in the tragic  
27 loss of lives; and  
28

29 WHEREAS, a comprehensive plan to address, prevent, or  
30 mitigate negative effects of climate change and address economic  
31 effects on the state will help save lives, protect public



1 health, preserve economic and resource development, and protect  
2 valuable infrastructure; now, therefore,

3  
4 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
5 Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular  
6 Session of 2007, the Senate concurring, that the Department of  
7 Health's Environmental Health Administration is requested to  
8 establish a task force to devise a comprehensive plan to address  
9 the negative effects of climate change and global warming on the  
10 welfare and economy of the state; and

11  
12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force be composed of  
13 13 members as follows:

- 14  
15 (1) Two members of the Senate appointed by the Senate  
16 President;  
17  
18 (2) Two members of the House of Representatives appointed  
19 by the Speaker of the House;  
20  
21 (3) The Deputy Director of the Department of Health's  
22 Environmental Health Administration or the Deputy  
23 Director's designee;  
24  
25 (4) A member from the University of Hawaii's (UH) School  
26 of Ocean and Earth Science and Technology;  
27  
28 (5) A member from UH's Environmental Center;  
29  
30 (6) The Director of Business, Economic Development, and  
31 Tourism or the Director's designee;  
32  
33 (7) The Director of the Department of Business, Economic  
34 Development, and Tourism's (DBEDT) Office of Planning  
35 or the Director's designee;  
36  
37 (8) The Chair of the Board of Land and Natural Resources  
38 or the Chair's designee;  
39  
40 (9) The Director of Transportation or the Director's  
41 designee; and  
  
42 (10) Two representatives from environmental-related  
43 organizations;



1  
2 and

3  
4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to  
5 include the following in its comprehensive plan:  
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7 (1) An assessment of the current and potential effects of  
8 climate-warming trends on residents, natural  
9 resources, public health, and economy of the state, in  
10 particular the adverse effects on natural resource  
11 development, transportation, community, and resource  
12 development infrastructures;  
13

14 (2) An estimate of the costs to the state and its  
15 residents of the adverse effects associated with  
16 climate change and global warming;  
17

18 (3) Identification of the specific circumstances of  
19 flooding and erosion that have affected life,  
20 property, and economic and resource development in the  
21 state;  
22

23 (4) Examination of alternative measures to prevent and  
24 mitigate the effects of flooding and erosion; and  
25

26 (5) Recommended policies to decrease the negative effects  
27 of climate change and global warming;  
28

29 and  
30

31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force offer  
32 recommendations and provide suggested solutions and preventive  
33 measures that can be implemented by the county and state  
34 governments; and  
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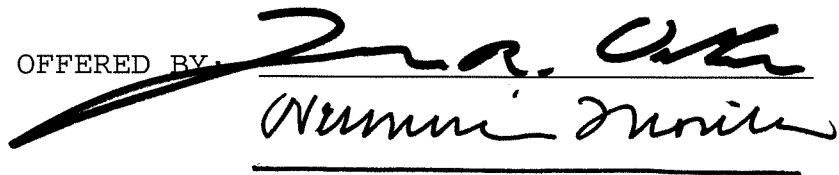
36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force submit a  
37 preliminary report of its findings to the Legislature no later  
38 than 20 days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of  
39 2008, and submit a final report to the Legislature no later than  
40 20 days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2009,  
41 including proposed legislation; and



# H.C.R. NO. 155

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
2 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Director  
3 of Health, Director of Business, Economic Development, and  
4 Tourism, Director of the Office of Planning, Chair of the Board  
5 of Land and Natural Resources, Dean of UH's Schools of Ocean &  
6 Earth Science & Technology, and the Director of UH's  
7 Environmental Center.  
8  
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10

OFFERED BY:

  
Nannu Mui

MAR 14 2007

