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## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU TO CONDUCT A STUDY  
TO DETERMINE THE FEASIBILITY OF REQUIRING HIGH-RISE  
BUILDINGS TO MAINTAIN BACKUP ELECTRICAL GENERATION CAPACITY  
IN THE EVENT OF POWER FAILURES.

1           WHEREAS, the recent earthquake and its aftershocks on  
2 October 15, 2006, caused major power failures on Oahu and  
3 throughout the State; and

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5           WHEREAS, the power failure for most of urban Honolulu  
6 lasted for a duration of up to twelve hours and longer in  
7 certain neighborhoods; and

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9           WHEREAS, Honolulu was very fortunate that the power failure  
10 did not cause any loss of life or major injury to residents and  
11 visitors; and

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13           WHEREAS, the power failure resulted in the loss of the use  
14 of elevators, causing major inconvenience to many residents and  
15 visitors occupying offices, hotel rooms, and dwelling units in  
16 high-rise buildings throughout the State; and

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18           WHEREAS, this loss of elevator service was especially  
19 difficult for elderly and infirm residents and visitors caught  
20 in high-rise buildings following the power failure; now,  
21 therefore,

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23           BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
24 Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular  
25 Session of 2007, the Senate concurring, that the Legislative  
26 Reference Bureau is requested to study the feasibility of  
27 requiring high-rise buildings to be retrofitted to provide a  
28 source of backup power generation to operate elevators and other  
29 emergency systems in the event of a power failure; and  
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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Reference  
2 Bureau is requested to consult with:

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4 (1) Hawaiian Electric Company;  
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6 (2) Structural and electrical engineers;  
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8 (3) High-rise building owners and management operators;  
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10 (4) The various county departments or agencies responsible  
11 for the issuance of building permits;  
12  
13 (5) The various county fire departments; and  
14  
15 (6) Suppliers of large commercial and industrial  
16 electrical generating equipment; and  
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18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Reference  
19 Bureau is requested to submit the study to the Legislature  
20 twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of  
21 2008; and  
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23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
24 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of the  
25 Legislative Reference Bureau, the Executive Officer of the  
26 Hawaiian Electric Company, the Mayor of each county, who in turn  
27 is required to transmit copies to the head of the county  
28 department or agency that is responsible for the issuance of  
29 building permits, and to the Chief of the Fire Department of  
30 each county.  
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OFFERED BY:

*Calvin K. Y. Lay*  
By Request  
MAR 12 2007

