HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE HAWAII CLEAN ENERGY INITIATIVE END-USE EFFICIENCY WORKING GROUP TO CONVENE DEVELOPMENT AND BUILDING INDUSTRY STAKEHOLDERS TO IDENTIFY BARRIERS TO IMPLEMENTATION AND WORK TOWARDS A CONSENSUS POSITION TO PROMOTE THE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF NET ZERO ENERGY BUILDINGS.

WHEREAS, Hawaii is the most oil-dependent state in the country and is the largest state importer of oil; and

WHEREAS, the Hawaii Clean Energy Initiative set a statewide goal of using seventy per cent clean energy by 2030 through the use of forty per cent renewable energy resources and thirty per cent energy efficiency; and

WHEREAS, buildings are responsible for at least forty per cent of the energy used in most countries, and properly designed and constructed buildings can make a major contribution toward reducing energy consumption and meeting greenhouse gas emission reduction targets; and

WHEREAS, progress can begin immediately because knowledge and technology already exist to reduce the amount of energy that buildings use, while at the same time, improve levels of comfort and functionality; and

WHEREAS, behavioral, organizational, and financial barriers stand in the way of immediate action, but these barriers may be overcome by encouraging energy security, making energy efficiency more valued, and changing behavior; and

WHEREAS, improving the design and construction of new buildings is the most cost-effective way to address energy efficiency and conservation; and

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WHEREAS, "net zero energy buildings" are residential or commercial buildings that are thirty-five per cent more energy efficient than required under the 2006 International Energy Conservation Code, as published by the International Code Council; and

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WHEREAS, net zero energy buildings are designed to consume net zero energy and produce zero carbon emissions, which would help Hawaii reach its seventy per cent clean energy goal; now, therefore,

 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2010, the Senate concurring, that the Hawaii Clean Energy Initiative End-Use Efficiency Working Group is urged to convene development and building industry stakeholders, the State Building Code Council, and applicable state and county agencies to identify barriers to implementation and propose solutions to reach a consensus position to promote the design and construction of net zero energy buildings; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Working Group is urged to address topics such as:

(1) Incentivizing design standards;

(2) Increasing consumer awareness;

(3) Use of life-cycle costing; and

 (4) Addressing the challenges of recharging stations or access to electrical outlets to facilitate the use of plug-in hybrid and electric vehicles; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism, who in turn is requested to transmit copies to the Chairperson of the State Building Code Council; the Chairperson of the Hawaii Clean Energy Initiative End-Use Efficiency Working Group; the

Chairperson of the Building Industry Association; and the Chairperson of the Hawaii Developers Council.

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OFFERED BY:

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