

MAR 10 2011

SENATE RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO INSTALL RENEWABLE ENERGY FACILITIES ON THE PREMISES OF AS MANY PUBLIC SCHOOLS AS IS FEASIBLE.

1 WHEREAS, Hawaii faces difficult challenges in the field of
2 energy, including an overdependence on fossil fuels; and

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4 WHEREAS, Hawaii imports ninety percent of its energy; and

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6 WHEREAS, Hawaii expends \$9,000,000,000 a year by importing
7 fossil fuels; and

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9 WHEREAS, Hawaii has demonstrated its commitment to
10 renewable energy through, among other things, the adoption of
11 the Hawaii Clean Energy Initiative; and

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13 WHEREAS, Hawaii has a variety of abundant renewable energy
14 resources such as solar and wind; and

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16 WHEREAS, pursuing and promoting the use of renewable energy
17 in state facilities will result in substantial cost savings for
18 the State in the long term, as well as set a positive example
19 for other people and entities across the State, particularly
20 students; and

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22 WHEREAS, public schools use most of their energy during the
23 day, when solar and wind resources are most readily available;
24 and

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26 WHEREAS, the installation of renewable energy facilities on
27 school sites will reduce the schools' consumption of energy
28 provided from outside sources, including fossil fuels; and

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30 WHEREAS, leasing school premises to a renewable energy
31 producer and entering into power purchase agreements to purchase
32 electricity from the producer may be a cost-effective means of
33 initiating and sustaining renewable energy use within school
34 facilities; now, therefore,



1 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-sixth
2 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2011,
3 that the Superintendant of Education is urged to facilitate the
4 installation of renewable energy facilities, such as
5 photovoltaic arrays, on the premises of as many public schools
6 as is feasible in an expeditious manner; and
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8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Superintendant of Education
9 is encouraged to consider the option of leasing school premises
10 to a power producer and entering into power purchase agreements
11 to purchase electricity from the producer for a fixed term at an
12 established rate; and
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14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education
15 (DOE) is requested to submit a report to the Legislature
16 regarding the feasibility of installing renewable energy
17 facilities on DOE properties, including a list of schools at
18 which the installation of renewable energy facilities would be
19 most practicable no later than twenty days prior to the
20 convening of the Regular Session of 2012; and
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22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
23 Resolution be transmitted to the Superintendent of Education,
24 Chairperson of the Board of Education, Executive Director of the
25 Charter School Administrative Office, and Energy Resources
26 Coordinator.
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OFFERED BY: 

