HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

ENCOURAGING THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION AND THE DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM TO CONTINUE ENERGY ADAPTATION EFFORTS TO ADDRESS PLANNING AND EFFICIENCY AS WIRELESS COMMUNICATIONS AND MOBILE ELECTRONIC DEVICES ALTER ENERGY CONSUMPTION AND DEMAND.

WHEREAS, analysts have estimated that current electricity consumption in the global information and communications technologies ecosystem ranges from 1,100 to 1,800 terawatt-hours per year; and

WHEREAS, global electricity consumption by information and communications technologies today is the same as that used by lighting in 1985; and

WHEREAS, per bit, data transmitted over a wireless network consumes more energy than when transported over a fiber optics network; and

WHEREAS, migration from wired internet to the wireless internet through digital devices is happening fastest in emerging markets and worldwide, mobile data traffic has doubled in the past year and is forecasted to increase tenfold in the next five years; and

WHEREAS, current estimates of global electricity used by digital devices in the global residential and commercial sector ranges from 460 to 550 terawatt-hours annually and is comparable to global electricity consumption by residential lighting or refrigeration; and

WHEREAS, data created, used, and transported annually, known as the digital universe, is growing at a faster pace than at any time in history and in the near future, hourly internet traffic is expected to exceed the internet's annual traffic of the year 2000; and

WHEREAS, energy consumption in Hawaii is declining due to conservation efforts and adherence to the State's energy efficiency portfolio standard which was established by Act 155, Session Laws of Hawaii 2009, and set a goal of reducing electricity consumption by 4,300 gigawatt-hours by 2030; and

WHEREAS, Hawaii will face an upward pressure on energy demand due to the rapid expansion of consumer oriented electronic technologies and the mass storage and dissemination of data; and

 WHEREAS, the Research and Economic Analysis Division of the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism specializes in energy analysis and is capable of forecasting energy demand in Hawaii; and

WHEREAS, population and economic growth are the driving forces in the world's need for energy and even with substantial gains in efficiency, global energy demand by 2030 will increase by an amount equivalent to adding two United States' worth of consumption; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2014, the Senate concurring, that the Public Utilities Commission and the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism are encouraged to continue energy adaptation efforts to address planning and efficiency as wireless communications and mobile electronic devices alter energy consumption and demand; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor; Chairperson of the Public Utilities Commission; Director of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; and head of the Research and Economic Analysis Division of the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism.