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# HOUSE RESOLUTION

URGING THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION TO ESTABLISH ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND CONSERVATION PROGRAMS FOR ALL AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITIES, ESPECIALLY THOSE ENGAGED IN THE PRODUCTION OF FOOD FOR LOCAL CONSUMPTION, AND TO DEVELOP APPROPRIATE INCENTIVES FOR AGRICULTURAL USES THAT MAY BE SHIFTED TO OFF-PEAK TIMES OR MAY BE AVAILABLE TO PARTICIPATE IN DEMAND RESPONSE TO THE BENEFIT OF THE ELECTRIC GRID.

1           WHEREAS, expanding the agricultural sector in Hawaii is  
2 essential to gaining self-sufficiency and food sustainability in  
3 the State; and

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5           WHEREAS, energy is a major cost component for those seeking  
6 to enter or sustain a business in the agricultural industry and  
7 rising energy costs have adversely impacted business viability  
8 and feasibility; and

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10          WHEREAS, properly designed programs and incentives for  
11 energy efficiency and conservation in all agricultural  
12 activities, especially those engaged in the production of food  
13 for local consumption, such as irrigation, water pumping,  
14 refrigeration, and cooling may optimize the efficiency of the  
15 electric grid and benefit all electricity customers; and

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17          WHEREAS, efficiency and conservation programs and  
18 appropriate rate design incentives can help to support the long-  
19 term viability and growth of all types of agriculture in the  
20 State; now, therefore,

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22          BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
23 Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular  
24 Session of 2014, that the Public Utilities Commission is urged  
25 to direct the Public Benefits Fee Administrator to consider  
26 energy efficiency and conservation programs to assist the  
27 agricultural sector, and to direct Hawaii's electric utilities  
28 to offer incentives for all agricultural activities, especially  
29 those engaged in the production of food for local consumption,



1 that can be shifted to off-peak times or are available to  
2 participate in demand response programs; and

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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
5 Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the Public  
6 Utilities Commission, Program Director of the Public Benefits  
7 Fee Administrator, Chairperson of the Board of Agriculture, and  
8 the President of each electric utility company operating in  
9 Hawaii.

