## SENATE RESOLUTION

ENCOURAGING WATER CONSERVATION BY CONSUMERS AND BUSINESSES AND INITIATIVES TO INCENTIVIZE AND EDUCATE CONSUMERS AND BUSINESSES ABOUT WATER CONSERVATION EFFORTS.

WHEREAS, water is a precious but finite resource in Hawaii and throughout the country; and

WHEREAS, water conservation helps ensure Hawaii will continue to have an adequate and high-quality supply of water; and

WHEREAS, water conservation saves consumers money in addition to benefitting the environment; and

WHEREAS, residential consumers can save water through simple efforts such as installing high efficiency toilets, laundry machines, and dishwashers, using low-flow showerheads and weather based irrigation controllers, and applying mulch to gardens; and

WHEREAS, businesses can save water by installing efficient appliances such as food steamers, dishwashers, laundry machines, toilets and urinals, as well as using automatic irrigation systems and low flow faucets; and

WHEREAS, installation of accurate water meters serves to save water by detecting leaks and charging the customer only for the amount of water they use which is a monetary incentive to use less water; and

WHEREAS, according to the Environmental Protection Agency, water users can be encouraged to install water-efficient equipment, appliances, or plumbing fixtures, repair water leaks, and implement sound landscaping practices through incentives such as rebates, tax breaks, vouchers, and conservation rate structures; and

WHEREAS, many states and counties throughout the United States are already providing economic incentives for water



 conservation efforts on top of automatic savings on monthly water and electric bills; and

WHEREAS, the most common incentives utilized are rebates provided by local water utility companies for consumers who purchase high efficiency appliances such as toilets, laundry machines, and dishwashers; however, some states such as Oregon offer a state income tax credit for buying new appliances that save water and energy, and cities such as San Diego offer free mulch for local residents; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2014, that this body encourages water conservation by consumers and businesses and initiatives to educate and incentivize consumers and businesses about water conservation efforts; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Water Supply for the City and County of Honolulu, Department of Water Supply for the County of Maui, Department of Water Supply for the County of Hawaii, and Department of Water for the County of Kauai, are encouraged to provide rebates to consumers and businesses purchasing high-efficiency appliances as well as educate consumers about water metering; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the counties are encouraged to increase efforts to educate the public about water conservation, its benefits, and available economic incentives; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Manager-Chief Engineer of the Board of Water Supply for the City and County of Honolulu, Director of the Department of Water Supply for the County of Maui, Manager-Chief Engineer of the Department of Water Supply for the County of Hawaii, Manager-Chief Engineer of the Board of Water Supply for the County of Kauai, Mayor of the City and County of Honolulu, Mayor of the County of Maui, Mayor of the County of Hawaii, and Mayor of the County of Kauai.

OFFERED BY:

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