

MAR 11 2016

SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM AND THE HAWAII STATE ENERGY OFFICE TO CONDUCT A STUDY TO ESTABLISH INCREMENTAL GOALS TO ACHIEVE ONE HUNDRED PERCENT RENEWABLE ENERGY FUELED GROUND TRANSPORTATION BY 2045.

1 WHEREAS, greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from human
2 activities are the most significant driver of observed climate
3 change since the mid-twentieth century; and
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5 WHEREAS, global oil consumption related to ground
6 transportation is a large contributor to increased levels of
7 carbon dioxide emissions in the atmosphere; and
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9 WHEREAS, ground transportation consumes roughly twenty-
10 three percent of all energy consumption in Hawaii; and
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12 WHEREAS, in 2013, it was reported that 1,300,000 vehicles
13 were registered in Hawaii, while the number of licensed drivers
14 totaled 904,500, highlighting that some residents own more than
15 one vehicle; and
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17 WHEREAS, petroleum-fueled vehicles do not contain costs for
18 consumers as crude oil prices fluctuate according to global
19 supply, global demand, oil inventory demand, and market
20 speculation; and
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22 WHEREAS, Hawaii's dependency on imported oil, coupled by
23 the increasing number of vehicle owners, could have adverse
24 effects to the local environment and Hawaii's largest
25 industries, including tourism, agriculture, and recreational and
26 commercial fishing; and
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28 WHEREAS, oil is imported to Hawaii internationally and
29 drains the State's economy of billions of dollars each year; and
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31 WHEREAS, a stronger local economy depends on a transition
32 away from ground transportation powered by imported oil and
33 toward ground transportation powered by local renewable energy



1 resources, which keeps millions of dollars in the State, creates
2 local jobs, and provides energy security and self-sufficiency;
3 and
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5 WHEREAS, scalability of renewable energy will ultimately
6 decrease and contain costs so consumers are not negatively
7 affected by volatile prices; and
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9 WHEREAS, the United States and one hundred ninety-five
10 countries entered into the Paris Agreement which, within the
11 United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, seeks:
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- 13 (1) A long-term goal to keep the increase in global
14 average temperature to well below two degrees Celsius
15 above pre-industrial levels;
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- 17 (2) To limit the increase to 1.5 degrees Celsius, in order
18 to significantly reduce the risks and impacts of
19 climate change;
20
- 21 (3) To reach global peaking of GHG emissions as soon as
22 possible, recognizing that this will take longer for
23 developing countries; and
24
- 25 (4) To undertake rapid reductions in GHG emissions
26 thereafter in accordance with the best available
27 science; and
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29 WHEREAS, Hawaii has shown its commitment to decreasing GHG
30 emissions and increasing renewable energy by adopting the Clean
31 Energy Initiative, becoming the first state to set a goal of
32 increasing its renewable portfolio standards to one hundred
33 percent by 2045; and
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35 WHEREAS, Hawaii provides an ideal test bed to accelerate
36 the use of renewable energy to fuel ground transportation, which
37 reduces oil usage and GHG emissions; and
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39 WHEREAS, achieving one hundred percent renewable energy
40 fueled ground transportation requires a phased approach to
41 ensure the State can achieve set benchmarks; and
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1 WHEREAS, the State should provide incentives and
2 investments for ground transportation projects fueled by
3 renewable energy; now, therefore,

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5 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-eighth
6 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2016,
7 that the Department of Business, Economic Development, and
8 Tourism and the Hawaii State Energy Office are requested to
9 conduct a study to establish incremental goals to achieve one
10 hundred percent renewable energy fueled ground transportation by
11 2045; and

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13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study include possible
14 grants, programs, tax credits, and tax exemptions for research
15 and enterprises related to commercializing renewable energy
16 fueled ground transportation projects; and

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18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Business,
19 Economic Development, and Tourism is requested to report its
20 findings and recommendations, including any proposed
21 legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior
22 to the convening of the Regular Session of 2017; and

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24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Governor is requested to
25 utilize the report in future programs and budgetary planning;
26 and

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28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
29 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor; Director of Business,
30 Economic Development, and Tourism; and Hawaii Energy Program
31 Administrator.

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34 OFFERED BY:

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