SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, TO STUDY THE ECONOMIC IMPACTS OF VERTICAL FARMING OPERATIONS.

WHEREAS, vertical farming produces food indoors in vertical stacked layers; and

WHEREAS, vertical farming uses indoor farming techniques and controlled-environment agriculture technology; and

WHEREAS, vertical farming has great potential to increase crop yields in limited land space; and

WHEREAS, other countries such as Singapore have been successful with vertical farming operations, which balances urban development and food sustenance necessities; and

WHEREAS, Hawaii must entertain alternatives to its current agricultural operations by bringing in fresh ideas in connection with utilizing the 'āina and practicing responsible land stewardship; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-ninth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2017, the House of Representatives concurring, that the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism, in conjunction with the Department of Agriculture, is requested to study the economic impacts of vertical farming operations; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study focus on food production, potential job creation opportunities, and identifying areas in urban settings that can be used for vertical farming; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Business,
Economic Development, and Tourism, in conjunction with the
Department of Agriculture, report its findings and
recommendations to the Legislature no later than twenty days
prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2018; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of
Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; and the Chairperson
of the Board of Agriculture.