
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE COUNTIES TO IMPLEMENT THE RECOMMENDATIONS SET FORTH
IN THE JUNE 2016 HAWAII ENERGY CODES COMPLIANCE STUDY.

1 WHEREAS, in the United States, buildings account for nearly
2 forty percent of national carbon dioxide emissions, more than
3 any other sector and larger than even the industrial and
4 transportation sectors; and

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6 WHEREAS, the State Building Code Council and the individual
7 counties are tasked with implementing and enforcing building
8 energy code standards to ensure that Hawaii's buildings are
9 energy efficient and environmentally friendly; and

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11 WHEREAS, Hawaii Energy commissioned a study to identify the
12 parts of the building energy code that are subject to compliance
13 issues, and whether there are corresponding savings
14 opportunities available from improving compliance rates; and

15
16 WHEREAS, the Hawaii Energy Codes Compliance Study, Version
17 Three, published in June 2016, reviewed the extent to which
18 nonresidential and high-rise residential buildings in the County
19 of Hawaii, County of Maui, and City and County of Honolulu
20 comply with the building energy code; and

21
22 WHEREAS, a sample of recently permitted projects were
23 selected in each of the reviewed counties: ten in Hawaii; ten in
24 Maui; and twenty in Honolulu; and

25
26 WHEREAS, the projects were selected to provide a mix of
27 large and small projects and new construction and renovation
28 projects; and

29
30 WHEREAS, the review of each project covered the buildings'
31 interior lighting; exterior lighting envelope; heating



1 ventilation, and air conditioning; and water heating systems;
2 and

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4 WHEREAS, the study estimated the total energy impact of
5 non-compliance with the building energy code to exceed seven
6 percent, and in some categories, such as interior lighting, the
7 study reported thirty-five percent non-compliance; and

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9 WHEREAS, when the total non-compliance impacts are applied
10 to construction forecasts, the total loss of energy savings was
11 estimated to be roughly 4.9 million kilowatt-hours per year,
12 which equates to over \$1,600,000; and

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14 WHEREAS, older buildings also lag far behind current
15 standards, and even new, efficient buildings may miss energy
16 savings goals without regular monitoring and care; and

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18 WHEREAS, Hawaii should also consider incentivizing up-to-
19 code improvements to realize efficiency gains throughout the
20 current building stock; and

21
22 WHEREAS, in summary, the Hawaii Energy Codes Compliance
23 Study recommended that the counties:

- 24
- 25 (1) Develop simple guidelines that show the performance
26 information that a designer must include on the plans
27 submitted for permit approval, as this information is
28 often missing from the plans despite being required by
29 the building energy code;
 - 30
31 (2) Require that designers indicate the code that they are
32 using for their design and also indicate the
33 compliance path that is applied;
 - 34
35 (3) Improve awareness of county building energy code
36 amendments;
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38 (4) Develop simple compliance guidance and incentive
39 programs for small retail projects, especially
40 focusing on lighting power compliance;

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- 1 (5) Develop guidance for improving window compliance for
- 2 projects in general;
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- 4 (6) Develop guidance for mechanical system commissioning;
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- 6 (7) Develop guidance on envelope requirements for
- 7 unconditioned buildings; and
- 8
- 9 (8) Prepare guidance information to support compliance
- 10 with the 2015 International Energy Conservation Code;
- 11 and
- 12

13 WHEREAS, building energy codes are updated as technology
 14 advances, and recent exponential advancements in technology make
 15 it difficult for building designers to stay up-to-date with the
 16 latest requirements and trends; and

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 18 WHEREAS, the recommendations set forth in the Hawaii Energy
 19 Codes Compliance Study focus heavily on keeping designers
 20 abreast of the most current energy code requirements, which in
 21 turn, will increase energy efficiency in Hawaii; now, therefore,

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 23 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
 24 Twenty-ninth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
 25 of 2018, the Senate concurring, that the counties are urged to
 26 implement the recommendations set forth in the June 2016 Hawaii
 27 Energy Codes Compliance Study; and

28
 29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 30 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor; Director
 31 of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Administrator of
 32 the Hawaii State Energy Office; Chair of the State Building Code
 33 Council; Mayor of each county; Director of the Department of
 34 Planning and Permitting, City and County of Honolulu; Director
 35 of the Department of Planning, County of Maui; Director of the
 36 Planning Department, County of Hawaii; and Director of the
 37 Department of Planning, County of Kauai.

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 40 OFFERED BY: 

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