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SENATE RESOLUTION

URGING THE STATE TO BAN SINGLE-USE PLASTIC GOODS AND PLASTIC BAGS AND TO SET A SUSTAINABILITY EXAMPLE BY ELIMINATING THE USE OF SINGLE-USE PLASTIC TABLEWARE AT STATE DEPARTMENT MEETINGS AND FUNCTIONS.

WHEREAS, the impact of the world's waste stream is unsustainable and detrimental to the future of Hawaii's environment and people; and

WHEREAS, plastic goods and other carbon-based products contribute to the environmental degradation of Hawaii; and

WHEREAS, the State is obligated to act in the best interest of the residents' health and welfare; and

WHEREAS, the reduction of the amount of plastic waste directly improves the carbon-based waste stream of the State;

WHEREAS, Maui County and Hawaii County have already started reducing the amount of plastic waste in the State by banning polystyrene containers; and

WHEREAS, the Honolulu City Council recently passed a bill banning most single-use plastic goods and bags; and

WHEREAS, the State is committed to significantly reduce its waste production and eliminate carbon-based single-use plastics by 2030; and

WHEREAS, the attendees of the 26th Annual Children and Youth Summit voted that the reduction of single-use plastic in the State is a priority concern that needs to be addressed; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2020, that the State is urged to ban the use of single-use plastic goods and plastic bags consistent with the similar ordinance passed by the Honolulu City Council; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the State is urged to set a sustainability example by eliminating the use of single-use plastic tableware at all state department meetings and functions; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Governor; Comptroller; Chairperson of the Board of Agriculture; Attorney General; Director of Finance; Director of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Director of Commerce and Consumer Affairs; Adjutant General; Superintendent of Education; Chairperson of the Hawaiian Homes Commission; Director of Human Resources Development; Director of Human Services; Director of Labor and Industrial Relations; Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources; Director of Public Safety; Director of Taxation; and Director of Transportation.