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## HOUSE RESOLUTION

URGING THE GOVERNOR AND STATE DEPARTMENTS TO INVESTIGATE OPPORTUNITIES PROVIDED BY THE DIRECT PAY PROVISION IN THE INFLATION REDUCTION ACT THAT ALLOWS FOR DIRECT PAYMENT OF CLEAN ENERGY INCENTIVES TO STATE GOVERNMENT ENTITIES FOR THE COST OF INSTALLING SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEMS IN STATE FACILITIES.

1           WHEREAS, in the Regular Session of 2021, the Legislature  
2 acknowledged that climate change poses an existential threat to  
3 humanity, declared a climate emergency, and requested statewide  
4 collaboration toward an immediate just transition and emergency  
5 mobilization effort to restore a safe climate; and

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7           WHEREAS, on August 16, 2022, President Biden signed into  
8 law the Inflation Reduction Act, marking the most significant  
9 action the United States Congress has taken on clean energy and  
10 climate change in the nation's history, which includes  
11 \$369,000,000,000 in direct investments to lower energy costs for  
12 families and small businesses, accelerate private investment in  
13 clean energy solutions in every sector of the economy and every  
14 corner of the country, strengthen supply chains for everything  
15 from critical minerals to efficient electric appliances, and  
16 create good-paying jobs and new economic opportunities for  
17 workers; and

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19           WHEREAS, the Inflation Reduction Act includes a provision  
20 allowing direct payment of clean energy incentives to tax-exempt  
21 entities who cannot take advantage of federal tax credits for  
22 clean energy, such as states and counties, for activities such  
23 as installing solar energy systems, including batteries, on  
24 state facilities, up to thirty percent of the cost of these  
25 projects; and

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27           WHEREAS, in fiscal year 2022, state departments and  
28 agencies consumed over 520,000,000 kilowatt hours of  
29 electricity, costing taxpayers \$173,000,000; and



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WHEREAS, installing solar energy systems on state facilities would lower energy use, save money for the State and taxpayers, and reduce the State's contributions to carbon pollution; and

WHEREAS, investment in Hawaii's clean energy transition drives economic growth, creates good-paying green economy jobs, lowers costs and the energy burden for all people in the State, and reduces carbon pollution to mitigate the impacts of the global climate crisis; and

WHEREAS, state government entities must aggressively pursue this opportunity and maximize the use of federal funds to reduce the costs of installing renewable energy systems on state facilities and build institutional capacity to fully obtain, accept, utilize, and administer the funds available from the federal government to decarbonize the economy and ensure a just and resilient transition currently and in the future; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Thirty-second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2023, that the Governor and state departments are urged to investigate opportunities provided by the direct pay provision in the Inflation Reduction Act that allows for direct payment of clean energy incentives to state government entities for the cost of installing solar energy systems in state facilities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that state departments tasked with managing facilities, including the Department of Accounting and General Services, Department of Education, and Department of Transportation, are requested to designate a point person to prepare for the availability and deployment of the direct pay funding for energy systems on state facilities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, head of each principal department, Chief Energy Officer of the Hawaii State Energy Office, and Director of the Hawaii Green Infrastructure Authority.



H.R. NO. 198

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OFFERED BY: Wade E. Louer

MAR 10 2023

