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## HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE GOVERNOR, STATE AGENCIES, AND OTHER RELEVANT  
STAKEHOLDERS TO ACCELERATE HAWAII'S CLEAN ENERGY TRANSITION  
AND TAKE IMMEDIATE, DECISIVE ACTION TO REDUCE AND ELIMINATE  
DEPENDENCE ON IMPORTED FOSSIL FUELS TO IMPROVE ENERGY  
SECURITY AND PROTECT CONSUMERS FROM RISING ENERGY COSTS.

1           WHEREAS, Hawaii has the highest electricity rates in the  
2 United States due largely to a reliance on imported fossil  
3 fuels, with residents paying an average of 42.39 cents per  
4 kilowatt-hour (kWh) in 2023 compared to the national average of  
5 16 cents per kWh, leading to monthly electricity bills that are  
6 63.1 percent higher than the national average; and

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8           WHEREAS, low-income households in the State face  
9 disproportionately high energy burdens, with families that live  
10 below the federal poverty level spending nearly twenty percent  
11 of their income on electricity costs compared to the national  
12 average of 2.3 percent; and

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14           WHEREAS, Hawaii remains the most fossil-fuel dependent  
15 state in the nation; the State's reliance on imported fossil  
16 fuels for the majority of its energy needs makes it highly  
17 vulnerable to global fuel price volatility, supply chain  
18 disruptions, and geopolitical instability; and

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20           WHEREAS, recent global economic pressures, United States  
21 trade tariffs, and the ongoing conflict in Ukraine have  
22 exacerbated fossil fuel price volatility, directly impacting  
23 consumers in the State through increased transportation and  
24 electricity costs; and

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26           WHEREAS, the volatility of fossil fuel prices is a primary  
27 driver of high electricity rates in the State, forcing families  
28 to choose between purchasing essential needs and paying utility  
29 bills, while also raising operational expenses for local  
30 businesses and increasing the costs of goods and services  
31 statewide; and  
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1 WHEREAS, accelerating the State's transition to solar,  
2 wind, geothermal, and energy storage and efficiency solutions  
3 will provide long-term cost savings for consumers, reduce  
4 economic dependence on volatile foreign fossil fuel markets, and  
5 improve energy affordability and security; and  
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7 WHEREAS, investments in renewable energy infrastructure  
8 will not only stabilize consumer energy costs but also create  
9 high-quality local jobs, foster technological innovation, and  
10 stimulate economic growth within Hawaii's local economy; and  
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12 WHEREAS, the State recognizes the constitutional rights of  
13 its people to a clean and healthful environment, as stated in  
14 article XI, section 9 of the Hawaii State Constitution,  
15 including the right to a life-sustaining climate system, and has  
16 public trust obligations under article XI, section 1 of the  
17 Hawaii State Constitution to conserve and protect Hawaii's  
18 natural beauty and resources, including air and energy  
19 resources, for present and future generations; and  
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21 WHEREAS, Executive Order No. 25-01, issued by Governor Josh  
22 Green, M.D., emphasizes the urgent need to accelerate the  
23 transition to achieve one hundred percent renewable energy  
24 production and reduce fossil fuel dependency through strategic  
25 investments and policy measures; now, therefore,  
26

27 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
28 Thirty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
29 of 2025, that the Governor, state agencies, and other relevant  
30 stakeholders are requested to accelerate Hawaii's clean energy  
31 transition and take immediate, decisive action to reduce and  
32 eliminate dependence on imported fossil fuels to improve energy  
33 security and protect consumers from rising energy costs; and  
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35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the immediate, decisive actions  
36 are requested to ensure equitable access to renewable energy for  
37 all communities in the State, particularly those with  
38 historically underserved populations that are disproportionately  
39 burdened by high energy costs; and  
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41 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
42 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor; Director of Business,



1 Economic Development, and Tourism; Chief Energy Officer of the  
2 Hawaii State Energy Office; Chairperson of the Public Utilities  
3 Commission; and the chief executive officer of each public  
4 utility operating in the State.

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OFFERED BY: *Nicole E. Low*

MAR - 7 2025

