

---

# HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING A COMMITMENT TO A NUCLEAR-FREE, SUSTAINABLE FUTURE.

1           WHEREAS, Hawaii has a constitutional ban on nuclear power.  
2 Hawaii's constitution explicitly prohibits nuclear fission power  
3 plants without legislative approval (Article XI, Section 8).  
4 This critical provision protects the health and safety of  
5 Hawaii's residents and reflects long-standing public opposition  
6 to nuclear energy; and  
7

8           WHEREAS, the County of Hawaii has already enacted  
9 ordinances banning nuclear energy, signifying the community's  
10 dedication to safer, cleaner alternatives; and  
11

12           WHEREAS, transporting nuclear fuel is a hazard. As an  
13 isolated island chain, Hawaii faces unique and significant risks  
14 in transporting nuclear fuel over vast ocean distances. Any  
15 accidents during transport could have catastrophic consequences  
16 for Hawaii's pristine marine environment and tourism-dependent  
17 economy; and  
18

19           WHEREAS, according to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
20 (NRC), the emergency planning zone around a nuclear power plant  
21 typically extends to a 10-mile radius for immediate radiation  
22 exposure concerns, while a broader "ingestion pathway" zone  
23 reaches out to a 50-mile radius where food and water  
24 contamination could occur in the event of an incident. This  
25 would make safely siting a power plant, particularly on Oahu,  
26 impossible; and  
27

28           WHEREAS, Hawaii's geological instability, including  
29 frequent earthquakes, volcanic activity, and tsunami risks,  
30 makes it an unsafe location for storing nuclear waste. There are  
31 no viable long-term solutions for safely containing radioactive  
32 materials in such a volatile environment. Moreover, a nuclear  
33 waste facility that would contain lethal radioactive waste must



1 be, according to scientists, maintained and funded for at least  
2 200,000 years; and

3  
4 WHEREAS, the cost of nuclear disasters is immense and  
5 multifaceted, encompassing direct costs like cleanup operations,  
6 property damage, and evacuation efforts, as well as significant  
7 indirect costs including long-term health consequences, economic  
8 disruption due to lost productivity and tourism, and severe  
9 psychological impacts on affected populations, often lasting for  
10 generations. We must look no further than major events like  
11 Chernobyl, Three Mile Island, and Fukushima to understand the  
12 vast scale of these costs, with estimates reaching hundreds of  
13 billions of dollars due to the complexity of managing  
14 radioactive contamination and the social repercussions of such  
15 disasters; and

16  
17 WHEREAS, Integral Fast Reactors, Pebble Bed Modular  
18 Reactors, Thorium Fueled Reactors, Molten Salt Reactors, and  
19 Small Modular Reactors (SMRs) are not viable. Proponents of  
20 SMRs and these other so called "new" types of reactors fail to  
21 address their unproven nature, unresolved safety risks, and  
22 economic inefficiency. Cost estimates to build them have been  
23 described as "eye-popping." Moreover, these technologies remain  
24 largely theoretical and lack adequate testing. Waiting for such  
25 reactors to materialize would forestall much faster and cheaper  
26 climate solutions. Additionally, the push for SMRs often serves  
27 the private interests of billionaires looking to power AI data  
28 centers rather than benefiting the people of Hawaii; and

29  
30 WHEREAS, the Hawaii State Energy Office has already  
31 indicated nuclear energy would be an expensive form of energy  
32 for Hawaii, and therefore, would be a distraction from Hawaii  
33 achieving our clean energy goals; and

34  
35 WHEREAS, the nuclear industry touting nuclear energy as  
36 "carbon-free electricity" is factually inaccurate. Even  
37 existing reactors emit greenhouse gas emissions due to the  
38 continuous mining and refining of uranium needed for the  
39 reactor; and



# H.R. NO. 89

1           WHEREAS, Hawaii is already on the path to achieving 100%  
2 renewable energy by 2045 through Act 97 (2015). Nuclear energy  
3 is not renewable, requires costly infrastructure, and pursuing  
4 it would divert attention and resources from proven, sustainable  
5 solutions like solar, and wind; now, therefore,  
6

7           BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
8 Thirty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
9 of 2025, that this body commits to uphold Hawai'i's  
10 constitution, a sustainable future, prioritize investing our  
11 resources in a clean renewable energy future, and honor the  
12 voices of its people by opposing the use of nuclear energy in  
13 Hawaii; and  
14

15           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
16 Resolution be transmitted to Governor; Attorney General;  
17 Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources; Director  
18 of the Office of Planning; and mayors of the City and County of  
19 Honolulu and counties of Hawaii, Kauai, and Maui.  
20  
21  
22

OFFERED BY: Allen A. Belotti

MAR 07 2025

