

MAR 07 2025

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE STATE TO REJECT ENERGY SOURCES FOUND TO BE HARMFUL OR
DESTABILIZING TO OUR CLIMATE SYSTEM AND ENVIRONMENT AND TO
COMMIT TO RENEWABLE ENERGY AND THE VALUES OF HAWAII'S
RESIDENTS.

1 WHEREAS, our climate is in crisis; global fossil fuel
2 pollution and other human-caused factors have contributed to the
3 climate crisis and its range of devastating impacts - including
4 rising sea-levels, critical loss of wildlife species, and an
5 increase in flooding, wildfires, and other extreme weather
6 events - that disproportionately impact the lives and cultures
7 of Indigenous peoples who have stewarded their lands and waters
8 since time immemorial; and

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10 WHEREAS, climate breakdown has already severely impacted
11 Hawaii through rising temperatures, devastating wildfires, sea
12 level rise, stronger hurricanes, coral bleaching, increased
13 drought and flooding, shifting rain patterns, and biodiversity
14 loss; and

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16 WHEREAS, scientists are warning: We have less than a
17 decade to take bold, ambitious action to transition our economy
18 off fossil fuels and onto safe and green renewable energy; and

19
20 WHEREAS, in 2021, Hawaii became the first jurisdiction in
21 the United States to declare a climate emergency officially, and
22 in doing so, requested statewide collaboration toward an
23 immediate just transition and emergency mobilization effort to
24 restore a safe climate, signifying a serious commitment to
25 addressing climate change issues within the State; and

26
27 WHEREAS, according to leading scientific consensus,
28 including reports from the International Energy Agency, there is
29 no room for new fossil fuel projects if the world is to achieve



1 net-zero emissions by 2050, effectively meaning scientists are
2 warning against initiating any new fossil fuel projects,
3 including those that utilize liquefied natural gas (LNG), if we
4 are to combat climate change; and
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6 WHEREAS, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
7 released its 2021 Report that identified methane, a major
8 greenhouse gas that frequently leaks along the LNG supply chain,
9 as a key contributor to global heating; and
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11 WHEREAS, LNG is primarily composed of methane—a harmful
12 greenhouse gas that is more than eighty times more powerful at
13 trapping heat in the atmosphere than carbon dioxide; and
14

15 WHEREAS, methane is responsible for around thirty percent
16 of the rise in global temperatures since the industrial
17 revolution, leading to the extreme weather, crop loss, rising
18 sea levels, and wildfires that accompany global warming; and
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20 WHEREAS, reducing methane emissions would have a
21 significant impact in mitigating the climate crisis as
22 scientists have made clear that rapid and sustained reductions
23 in methane emissions are key to limit near-term warming; and
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25 WHEREAS, hydraulic fracturing, commonly known as
26 "fracking", is a polluting and water-intensive technique used by
27 fossil fuel companies to crack open the earth and access gas
28 deposits; and
29

30 WHEREAS, LNG is a product of fracking and fracking wells,
31 in addition to destroying forests and farmland and poisoning
32 clean water, air, and soil, pose unacceptable health hazards to
33 farmers and communities that live near fracking operations, with
34 numerous reports linking fracking activities to birth defects,
35 cancer, and asthma; and
36

37 WHEREAS, each fracking well can pollute more than
38 10,000,000 gallons of fresh water, and the fracking process
39 involves toxic, carcinogenic chemicals and heavy metals that
40 have been known to contaminate agricultural soils near fracking
41 operations; and
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1 WHEREAS, the LNG fracking industry is undermining climate
2 change action, as every stage of the LNG life cycle leaks
3 methane emissions into the atmosphere; and
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5 WHEREAS, Robert W. Howarth, called "one the world's premier
6 methane scientists", says ending the use of LNG should be a
7 global priority; and
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9 WHEREAS, LNG would require costly infrastructure, such as
10 an offshore platform for LNG tankers to dock and unload, storage
11 tanks, pipelines, and a regasification facility, diverting our
12 resources and seriously undermining efforts to move us forward
13 with our clean energy goals; and
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15 WHEREAS, shifting to cleaner, locally-run energy will not
16 only slow the tide of the climate crisis, it will create
17 thousands of new, good-paying jobs that sustain families while
18 protecting community health and significantly boosting the
19 State's economy; now, therefore,
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21 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-third
22 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2025, the
23 House of Representatives concurring, that this body acknowledges
24 the devastating environmental and health hazards that liquefied
25 natural gas poses and that use of liquefied natural gas is not
26 in alignment with Hawaii's core values; and
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28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this body requests state
29 authorities to refrain from committing financial and regulatory
30 assistance toward LNG or any other energy sources found to be
31 harmful or destabilizing to our climate system and environment;
32 and
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34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this body calls upon the state
35 government to protect the people of Hawaii by implementing the
36 recommendations by scientists to ensure no new fossil fuel
37 projects are invested in and focus our resources on
38 transitioning our economy off fossil fuels and onto safe and
39 green renewable energy; and
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41 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
42 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor; Attorney



1 General; Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources;
2 Director of the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development;
3 and Mayors of the Counties of Maui, Kauai, and Hawaii and Mayor
4 of the City and County of Honolulu.

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OFFERED BY:



