
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE HAWAII STATE ENERGY OFFICE TO ESTABLISH AN
OFFSHORE WIND ENERGY WORKING GROUP TO DEVELOP A ROADMAP AND
RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING OFFSHORE WIND ENERGY DEVELOPMENT
IN HAWAII.

1 WHEREAS, offshore wind power is in the early stages of
2 development in the United States, with numerous state and
3 federal offshore wind energy production targets already
4 established for the coming years; and

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6 WHEREAS, offshore wind development is potentially a source
7 of sustainable, cost-effective, clean power, it may also lead to
8 environmental, cultural, and socioeconomic impacts for local
9 communities; and

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11 WHEREAS, following the establishment of the State's goal of
12 achieving one hundred percent renewable energy by 2045, areas
13 off the coast of O'ahu have been subject to unsolicited wind
14 energy lease requests; and

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16 WHEREAS, communities affected by these lease requests have
17 often expressed strong concerns or outright opposition to
18 offshore wind deployment; and

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20 WHEREAS, as offshore wind energy grows in adoption and
21 Hawaii considers possible developments in its waters, it is
22 vital to balance the benefits of this energy source with
23 infrastructure capacity and community sentiment; and

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25 WHEREAS, this resolution reflects one of the final policy
26 initiatives advanced by the late Representative Gene Ward, who
27 passed away after more than thirty years of dedicated service to
28 his community and the State of Hawai'i, during which time he



1 worked tirelessly to represent his constituents and address
2 issues affecting the future of the State; now, therefore,

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4 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
5 Thirty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
6 of 2026, the Senate concurring, the Hawaii State Energy Office
7 is requested to establish an Offshore Wind Energy Working Group
8 to develop a roadmap and recommendations regarding offshore wind
9 energy development in Hawaii; and

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11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Offshore Wind Energy Working
12 Group shall convene to:

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14 (1) Compile and review existing data related to offshore
15 wind energy development;
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17 (2) Engage community stakeholders in discussions regarding
18 offshore wind development;
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20 (3) Evaluate the suitability of offshore wind energy
21 development in Hawaii;
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23 (4) Develop recommendations regarding possible adjustments
24 to the State's renewable energy goals; and
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26 (5) Establish best practices to guide the State in
27 evaluating and initiating offshore wind energy
28 projects; and
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30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
31 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of the
32 federal Bureau of Ocean Energy Management within the U.S.
33 Department of the Interior, the Governor, the Chief Energy
34 Officer of the Hawai'i State Energy Office, the Chair of the
35 Public Utilities Commission, the Chairperson of the Board of
36 Land and Natural Resources, the Director of the Office of
37 Planning and Sustainable Development, the Chief Executive
38 Officer of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, and the Mayor of the
39 City and County of Honolulu.



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OFFERED BY:


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