

MAR 16 2026

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## SENATE RESOLUTION

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REQUESTING THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION TO ENSURE THAT CERTAIN CONDITIONS ARE MET BEFORE APPROVING ANY INFRASTRUCTURE, OPERATIONS, MAINTENANCE, FUEL, OR OTHER COSTS RELATING TO SUPPLYING AND USING LIQUEFIED NATURAL GAS.

1           WHEREAS, the State must ensure that any consideration of  
2 importing natural gas into Hawaii is conducted in a manner that  
3 protects ratepayers, advances clean energy goals, and safeguards  
4 long-term economic and environmental interests; and  
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6           WHEREAS, proponents of natural gas have asserted that its  
7 use would reduce electricity costs and greenhouse gas emissions  
8 relative to imported petroleum; and  
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10          WHEREAS, sufficient, transparent, and verifiable evidence  
11 has not been provided to substantiate these claims; and  
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13          WHEREAS, long-term investments in natural gas  
14 infrastructure may expose ratepayers to significant financial  
15 risks, including stranded asset costs, fuel price volatility,  
16 and long-term contractual obligations that could inflate  
17 electricity costs; and  
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19          WHEREAS, Hawaii has established a statutory mandate to  
20 achieve one hundred percent renewable portfolio standards by  
21 2045; and  
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23          WHEREAS, substantial new investment in fossil fuel  
24 infrastructure may undermine progress toward this goal and  
25 divert capital, policy focus, and market signals away from the  
26 development of indigenous, renewable energy sources; now,  
27 therefore,  
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29          BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-third  
30 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2026,



1 that the Public Utilities Commission is requested to ensure that  
2 the following conditions are met before approving any costs of  
3 infrastructure, operations, maintenance, fuel, or other costs  
4 relating to supplying and using liquefied natural gas:  
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6 (1) All liquefied natural gas infrastructure costs shall  
7 be fully amortized no later than 2045, and utility  
8 customers shall not be obligated to pay the costs of  
9 any stranded investments;  
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11 (2) Any power purchase or fuel supply agreement shall not  
12 include any volumetric commitments or take-or-pay  
13 requirements for fuel supplies and shall include  
14 provisions for supplies declining to zero no later  
15 than 2045;  
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17 (3) Any power purchase or fuel supply agreement shall not  
18 result in increased costs for customers in the  
19 counties of Hawaii, Kauai, or Maui, including costs  
20 arising from downstream effects of changing fuel  
21 supplies or suppliers for those counties; and  
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23 (4) Any approval shall include protections for customers  
24 from fuel price volatility, including but not limited  
25 to provisions for the utility to share in fuel price  
26 changes, which shall begin at no less than ten percent  
27 and shall increase over time in line with declining  
28 fuel supply volumes; and  
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30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Public Utilities Commission  
31 is requested to deny any costs related to liquefied natural gas  
32 if more cost-effective, non-fossil-fuel alternatives are  
33 available to a utility or if approving the power purchase or  
34 fuel supply agreement would commit a utility to purchasing a  
35 greater amount of liquefied natural gas than necessary to  
36 accommodate the maximum amount of renewable energy on the grid;  
37 and  
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39 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Public Utilities Commission  
40 is requested to consider the effects of approving the use of  
41 liquefied natural gas on renewable energy development and  
42 deployment, including risks and costs of diverting attention and



1 resources away from maximizing present and future cost savings  
2 from renewable energy sources when making determinations of the  
3 reasonableness of costs pertaining to electric or gas utility  
4 system capital improvements and operations; and  
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6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Public Utilities Commission  
7 is requested to consider the risks and costs of stranded assets  
8 and the risks and costs of reliance on a single fuel supply or  
9 monopoly supplier when making determinations of the  
10 reasonableness of costs pertaining to electric or gas utility  
11 system capital improvements and operations; and  
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13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
14 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Commerce and  
15 Consumer Affairs; Executive Director of the Division of Consumer  
16 Advocacy of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs;  
17 Chief Energy Officer of the Hawaii State Energy Office;  
18 Chairperson of the Public Utilities Commission; and President  
19 and Chief Executive Officer of Hawaiian Electric.  
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OFFERED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

