
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION TO ESTABLISH ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND CONSERVATION PROGRAMS FOR ALL AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITIES, ESPECIALLY THOSE ENGAGED IN THE PRODUCTION OF FOOD FOR LOCAL CONSUMPTION, AND TO DEVELOP APPROPRIATE INCENTIVES FOR AGRICULTURAL USES THAT MAY BE SHIFTED TO OFF-PEAK TIMES OR MAY BE AVAILABLE TO PARTICIPATE IN DEMAND RESPONSE TO THE BENEFIT OF THE ELECTRIC GRID.

1 WHEREAS, expanding the agricultural sector in Hawaii is
2 essential to gaining self-sufficiency and food sustainability in
3 the State; and

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5 WHEREAS, energy is a major cost component for those seeking
6 to enter or sustain a business in the agricultural industry and
7 rising energy costs have adversely impacted business viability
8 and feasibility; and

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10 WHEREAS, properly designed programs and incentives for
11 energy efficiency and conservation in all agricultural
12 activities, especially those engaged in the production of food
13 for local consumption, such as irrigation, water pumping,
14 refrigeration, and cooling may optimize the efficiency of the
15 electric grid and benefit all electricity customers; and

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17 WHEREAS, efficiency and conservation programs and
18 appropriate rate design incentives can help to support the long-
19 term viability and growth of all types of agriculture in the
20 State; now, therefore,

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22 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
23 Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
24 Session of 2014, the Senate concurring, that the Public
25 Utilities Commission is urged to direct the Public Benefits Fee
26 Administrator to consider energy efficiency and conservation
27 programs to assist the agricultural sector, and to direct



1 Hawaii's electric utilities to offer incentives for all
2 agricultural activities, especially those engaged in the
3 production of food for local consumption, that can be shifted to
4 off-peak times or are available to participate in demand
5 response programs; and

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7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
8 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the
9 Public Utilities Commission, Program Director of the Public
10 Benefits Fee Administrator, Chairperson of the Board of
11 Agriculture, and the President of each electric utility company
12 operating in Hawaii.

