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## HOUSE RESOLUTION

SUPPORTING THE PRODUCTION OF LOCAL RENEWABLE ENERGY.

1           WHEREAS, Hawaii is overly dependent on the import of fossil  
2 fuels for electricity production and transportation fuel; and

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4           WHEREAS, petroleum fossil fuels provide over 60 percent of  
5 the state's electricity--far above the national average of four  
6 to six percent; and

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8           WHEREAS, a continued rise in oil prices will severely  
9 damage the state's economy and hurt tourism, Hawaii's primary  
10 industry; and

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12           WHEREAS, the use of liquid transportation fuels can be  
13 greatly reduced by constructing transportation infrastructure  
14 that uses electricity as its energy supply; and

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16           WHEREAS, Hawaii possesses abundant untapped renewable  
17 energy resources, such as geothermal, wind, cellulosic biomass,  
18 solar, and hydroelectric power, which could supply all of the  
19 state's electricity needs as well as provide substantial  
20 quantities of transportation fuel, without sacrificing food  
21 sustainability for biofuel production and without adversely  
22 affecting Hawaii's fragile and unique environment; and

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24           WHEREAS, sustainably-used agricultural lands are an  
25 important resource for providing food and fuel, preserving open  
26 space, creating new industries, saving local jobs, and promoting  
27 the sustainability and food security of Hawaii; and

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29           WHEREAS, Hawaii's geographic isolation makes it important  
30 for the state to pursue economic diversification and strive for  
31 self-sufficiency while still fulfilling its obligation to  
32 decrease carbon-dioxide emissions in the international effort  
33 against global warming; and



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WHEREAS, worldwide concerns about the environmentally harmful life-cycle impact of certain imported biofuels and biofuel feedstocks have led to a ban on such fuels and feedstock oils by major nations; and

WHEREAS, the greatest benefit of the ban to the state-- environmentally and economically--lies in the production of local renewable energy by locally owned businesses using local resources; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2009, that the University of Hawaii (UH) is requested to research and develop a viable plan for the production and implementation of renewable energy sources and renewable energy technologies that will ensure the best use of local resources for biofuels in accordance with the availability of agricultural lands and the need to use such lands for food; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that UH is requested to provide a report of its research and plans to the Legislature no later than 20 days before the convening of the Regular Session of 2011; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Executive Branch is urged to adopt a policy of actively promoting, by all feasible means, the construction of renewable-energy facilities on all levels-- from systems in individual homes to larger non-utility-owned, independent power-producing plants; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Executive Branch is urged to adopt a policy of actively promoting electrified mass transit, the conservation of electrical energy, and the use of plug-in hybrid vehicles and electric vehicles; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Executive Branch is urged to actively support local farmers, locally-owned biofuel processors, and local fuel distributors; provided that:

- (1) Such support does not extend to imported oil feedstock or fuel; and

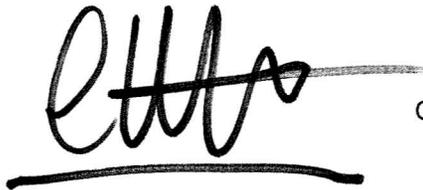


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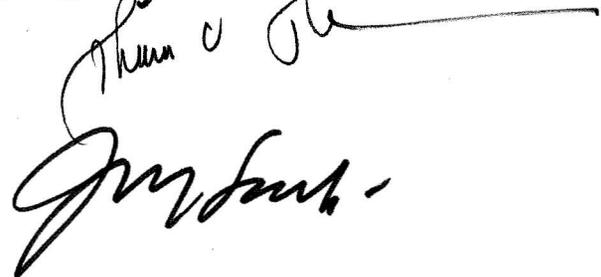
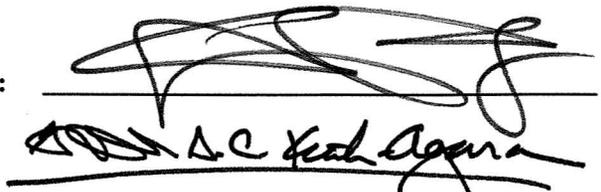
(2) Prime agricultural land should be retained for food production, on the condition that other agricultural lands may be used for biofuel production;

and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Governor and the Board of Regents of the University of Hawaii.



OFFERED BY:



MAR 1 8 2009

