

MAR 18 2009

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# SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO IMPLEMENT SIMPLE,  
COST-EFFECTIVE PRACTICES THAT ENCOURAGE ENERGY CONSERVATION  
IN THE WORKPLACE AMONG DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL.

1 WHEREAS, the Department of Education (DOE) may do more than  
2 it is doing now to implement simple, but important, energy  
3 conservation practices in the workplace; and  
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5 WHEREAS, during the last decade, the State has invested  
6 millions of dollars in technology to bring down energy costs;  
7 and  
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9 WHEREAS, the State has established various operational  
10 procedures to lower electricity costs; for example, at the State  
11 Capitol, the air conditioning is turned off at 4:30 p.m. each  
12 weekday and left off during the weekends and holidays; and  
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14 WHEREAS, the Legislature finds that even with these  
15 measures in place, more can be done by the DOE leadership and  
16 employees; for example, at the DOE, employees leave fluorescent  
17 lights on when no one is in the room, computers are left on over  
18 the weekend, windows are propped open and space heaters are used  
19 even though the air conditioning is operating, and various other  
20 unnecessary personal appliances are used; and  
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22 WHEREAS, the Legislature finds that DOE employees should be  
23 encouraged to conserve energy by way of simple, inexpensive  
24 conservation reminders, such as signs placed at each exit or  
25 above each light switch, announcements during meetings and  
26 training sessions, brief articles in DOE newsletters, emails to  
27 employees, and morning announcements; and  
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29 WHEREAS, although the savings of each of these measures may  
30 be minimal, the cumulative savings will be substantial; now,  
31 therefore,  
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1 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fifth  
 2 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2009, the  
 3 House of Representatives concurring, that the DOE is requested  
 4 to review its existing energy conservation strategies and  
 5 implement inexpensive energy conservation practices, including  
 6 cost-effective programs that encourage energy conservation in  
 7 the workplace among DOE personnel, such as department-wide  
 8 energy conservation meetings and training, and workplace notices  
 9 posted in highly visible areas to encourage energy-saving  
 10 behavior, such as turning off unneeded lights, powering down  
 11 computers and electronics, raising air conditioner thermostat  
 12 settings, and reducing elevator use; and  
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14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the DOE is requested to report  
 15 to the Legislature regarding the measures taken by the DOE to  
 16 implement these energy conservation practices not later than  
 17 twenty days prior to the convening of Regular Session of 2010;  
 18 and  
 19

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
 21 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the  
 22 Board of Education, the Executive Director of the Board of  
 23 Education, the Executive Director of the Charter School  
 24 Administrative Office, the Superintendent of Education, and the  
 25 State Librarian.  
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 27  
 28

OFFERED BY:

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