
SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE TO ESTABLISH A WORKING GROUP TO DISCUSS STRATEGIES FOR THE DEVELOPMENT AND EXPANSION OF GEOTHERMAL ENERGY AND TECHNOLOGY.

1 WHEREAS, there is growing concern about the rising cost of
2 energy in Hawaii; and
3

4 WHEREAS, Hawaii's natural resources, such as geothermal
5 energy, help reduce the State's dependence on imported oil for
6 its energy needs and make the State more self-sufficient; and
7

8 WHEREAS, geothermal energy in Hawaii has proven to be a
9 reliable, inexhaustible energy source that is nearly emission-
10 free; and
11

12 WHEREAS, geothermal energy in Hawaii offers tremendous
13 potential for growth and expansion; and
14

15 WHEREAS, the State needs a sound, comprehensive strategy to
16 ensure that geothermal energy is developed in an economically
17 feasible manner that still protects public health, the
18 environment, and cultural rights; and
19

20 WHEREAS, a working group is necessary to discuss strategies
21 for the development and expansion of geothermal energy and
22 technology, including geothermal energy and technology
23 development on the island of Hawaii and the development of a
24 geothermal energy and technology park; now, therefore,
25

26 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-seventh
27 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2013,
28 that the President of the Senate is requested to establish a
29 Geothermal Energy and Technology Working Group to discuss
30 strategies for the development and expansion of geothermal
31 energy and technology in Hawaii, including but not limited to
32 geothermal energy and technology development on the island of
33 Hawaii and the development of a geothermal energy and technology
34 park; and
35



1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Geothermal Energy and
2 Technology Working Group be composed of the following members:

- 3
4 (1) The Energy Program Administrator of the Hawaii State
5 Energy Office of the Department of Business, Economic
6 Development, and Tourism, who shall serve as Chair of
7 the Working Group;
8
9 (2) The Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural
10 Resources, or the Chairperson's designee;
11
12 (3) The Director of Health, or the Director's designee;
13
14 (4) The Director of the Hawaii County Civil Defense, or
15 the Director's designee;
16
17 (5) The Chairperson of the Board of Directors of the High
18 Technology Development Corporation, or the
19 Chairperson's designee;
20
21 (6) The Mayor of the County of Hawaii, or the Mayor's
22 designee;
23
24 (7) The Chairperson of the Hawaii County Council, or the
25 Chairperson's designee;
26
27 (8) A representative of the United States Department of
28 Energy;
29
30 (9) Two representatives of the geothermal industry, to be
31 selected by the President of the Senate;
32
33 (10) One member from the affected community in the County
34 of Hawaii, to be selected by the President of the
35 Senate;
36
37 (11) One representative of the Hawaii Island Labor
38 Alliance; and
39
40 (12) One representative of the Center for the Study of
41 Active Volcanoes at the University of Hawaii at Hilo,
42 to be selected by the Chancellor of the University of
43 Hawaii at Hilo; and
44



1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the President of the Senate is
2 requested to make Conference Room 414 in the State Capitol
3 building with its video conferencing capability available to the
4 Geothermal Energy and Technology Working Group to enable Hawaii
5 County members to participate in meetings remotely by video
6 conferencing via computers and web cams; and
7

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Geothermal Energy and
9 Technology Working Group is requested to submit a report of its
10 findings and recommendations, including any proposed
11 legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior
12 to the convening of the Regular Session of 2014 and cease to
13 exist on June 30, 2014; and
14

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
16 Resolution be transmitted to the President of the Senate;
17 Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources; Director
18 of Health; Chairperson of the Board of Directors of the High
19 Technology Development Corporation; Mayor of the County of
20 Hawaii; Chairperson of the Hawaii County Council; Energy Program
21 Administrator of the Hawaii State Energy Office of the
22 Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism;
23 Director of Hawaii County Civil Defense; United States
24 Department of Energy; Hawaii Island Labor Alliance; and Center
25 for the Study of Active Volcanoes at the University of Hawaii at
26 Hilo.