
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE HAWAIIAN ELECTRIC COMPANY, INC. TO PROVIDE A
REDUCED FIXED ELECTRICITY RATE TO ALL PUBLIC ELEMENTARY,
MIDDLE, AND HIGH SCHOOLS IN THE STATE.

1 WHEREAS, air conditioning has been cited as the "most
2 critical factor" for optimal learning and the temperature of the
3 classroom clearly affects the attention span and learning
4 capabilities of students; and

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6 WHEREAS, extreme heat can have negative health effects on
7 students and teachers, including dehydration, heat exhaustion,
8 heat cramps, heat rash, and heat stroke, some of which have been
9 confirmed at public schools in the State; and

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11 WHEREAS, studies have shown air conditioning, or lack
12 thereof, contributes to the condition of the school with schools
13 not having air conditioning considered in poorer condition than
14 schools with air conditioning, and schools in poor condition had
15 much lower achievement levels than schools in fair and excellent
16 condition; and

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18 WHEREAS, public schools in the State have struggled with no
19 air conditioning for decades due in large part to high
20 electricity costs that hamper the department of education and
21 school districts' abilities to install air conditioning; and

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23 WHEREAS, the Hawaiian Electric Company, Inc. and its
24 subsidiaries provide electricity for all of the public
25 elementary, middle, and high schools on the islands of Hawaii,
26 Lanai, Maui, Molokai, and Oahu, serving over ninety per cent of
27 public school students in the State; and

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29 WHEREAS, the cost of electricity in the State is outrageous
30 compared to the national average and extremely volatile because



1 of its dependence on international fossil fuel and oil prices;
2 and

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4 WHEREAS, a reduced and fixed electricity rate would provide
5 public schools the ability to predict monthly rates of
6 electrical costs upon installation of air conditioning units in
7 their classrooms; and

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9 WHEREAS, schools deserve immediate relief from the
10 crippling electricity costs holding their students hostage in
11 sweltering heat; and

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13 WHEREAS, the Hawaiian Electric Company, Inc. possess the
14 ability to protect our students through providing electricity
15 for air conditioning at a consistent, reduced and fixed rate;
16 now, therefore,

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18 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
19 Twenty-eighth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
20 Session of 2016, the Senate concurring, that the Hawaiian
21 Electric Company, Inc. is requested to determine and provide a
22 reduced, fixed electricity rate to all public elementary and
23 high schools in the State; and

24
25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
26 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the
27 Public Utilities Commission and the President and Chief
28 Executive Officer of Hawaiian Electric Company, Inc., who in
29 turn are requested to distribute copies to each member of the
30 board of directors of the Hawaiian Electric Company, Inc.

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OFFERED BY:

[Handwritten signatures and names]

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