
HOUSE 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
5

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
10

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
17

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
22

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
28

29 WHEREAS, the cost of electricity in the State is outrageous
30 compared to the national average and extremely volatile because
31 of its dependence on international fossil fuel and oil prices;
32 and



1
 2 WHEREAS, a reduced and fixed electricity rate would provide
 3 public schools the ability to predict monthly rates of
 4 electrical costs upon installation of air conditioning units in
 5 their classrooms; and

6
 7 WHEREAS, schools deserve immediate relief from the
 8 crippling electricity costs holding their students hostage in
 9 sweltering heat; and

10
 11 WHEREAS, the Hawaiian Electric Company, Inc. possess the
 12 ability to protect our students through providing electricity
 13 for air conditioning at a consistent, reduced and fixed rate;
 14 now, therefore,

15
 16 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
 17 Twenty-eighth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
 18 Session of 2016, that the Hawaiian Electric Company, Inc. is
 19 requested to determine and provide a reduced, fixed electricity
 20 rate to all public elementary and high schools in the State; and

21
 22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 23 Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the Public
 24 Utilities Commission and the President and Chief Executive
 25 Officer of Hawaiian Electric Company, Inc., who in turn are
 26 requested to distribute copies to each member of the board of
 27 directors of the Hawaiian Electric Company, Inc.

OFFERED BY:

[Handwritten signatures]
 John M. ...
 Lynn De Costa
 ...
 Cindy Evans

