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# HOUSE RESOLUTION

DECLARING A CLIMATE EMERGENCY AND REQUESTING IMMEDIATE AND  
ACCELERATED ACTION TO ADDRESS THE CLIMATE CRISIS AND LIMIT  
GLOBAL WARMING TO 1.5 DEGREES CELSIUS.

1           WHEREAS, climate change is an urgent unfolding crisis that  
2 presents a serious threat to global stability and human  
3 existence; and

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5           WHEREAS, in 2018, the United Nations Intergovernmental  
6 Panel on Climate Change issued a special report on the impacts  
7 of global warming and the need to reduce global greenhouse gas  
8 emissions well before 2030 to hold warming to 1.5 degrees  
9 celsius and avoid the most catastrophic impacts of climate  
10 change; and

11  
12           WHEREAS, also in 2018, the United States' Fourth National  
13 Climate Assessment made clear that climate change will wreak  
14 havoc across the United States, and the current pace and scale  
15 of national climate action is not sufficient to prevent  
16 substantial damage to the economy, environment, and human health  
17 in the coming decades; and

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19           WHEREAS, throughout the United States, communities of  
20 color, low-wage workers, and low-income communities have been on  
21 the frontline of longstanding environmental injustices and have  
22 historically borne the brunt of the fossil fuel economy; and

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24           WHEREAS, the State is already suffering from impacts of  
25 climate change in the form of increases in wildfires, higher air  
26 and ocean temperatures, coastal erosion from sea level rise, and  
27 extreme rain events; and



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1           WHEREAS, the State will suffer increased and more severe  
2 impacts of climate change if global greenhouse gas emissions are  
3 not significantly reduced; and  
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5           WHEREAS, climate change will continue to make basic human  
6 necessities such as food, housing, healthcare, transportation,  
7 and energy more expensive and difficult to maintain, adding  
8 additional pressure to the State's high cost of living; and  
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10           WHEREAS, to stay within 1.5 degrees celsius, major  
11 populations throughout the world will need to significantly  
12 reduce their per capita emissions by 2030, and Hawaii has  
13 already taken some steps toward this goal; and  
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15           WHEREAS, Hawaii remains a global climate action leader by  
16 establishing a goal to reach one hundred percent carbon  
17 neutrality by 2045; now, therefore,  
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19           BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
20 Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of  
21 2020, that the State of Hawaii hereby declares a state of  
22 climate emergency, given that the climate crisis poses a serious  
23 and urgent threat to the well-being of Hawaii, its inhabitants,  
24 and its environment; and  
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26           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that to meet the State's ambitious  
27 greenhouse gas emission reduction targets, the Hawaii Climate  
28 Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission is urged to make  
29 recommendations for addressing key climate issues; and  
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31           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that as the State works on climate  
32 issues, it is urged to continue to advance climate adaptation  
33 efforts to address unavoidable current and future climate  
34 impacts; and  
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36           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
37 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, mayors of



1 each county, and each member of the Hawaii Climate Mitigation  
2 and Adaptation Commission.

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OFFERED BY: Neile E. Lower

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~~John~~

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FEB 27 2020

