

MAR 12 2021

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# SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE OFFICE OF PLANNING TO QUANTIFY THE AMOUNT OF LAND  
NEEDED TO MEET RENEWABLE ENERGY GOALS AND THE AMOUNT OF  
LAND NEEDED TO MEET FOOD SUSTAINABILITY GOALS AND TO MAKE  
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE FUTURE SITING CONSIDERATIONS TO  
MEET BOTH GOALS.

1           WHEREAS, the goal of the Hawaii Clean Energy Initiative is  
2 to achieve one hundred percent renewable energy, as defined by  
3 section 269-91, Hawaii Revised Statutes, by 2045; and  
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5           WHEREAS, in 2016, Governor David Ige committed to doubling  
6 the State's food production by 2030; and  
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8           WHEREAS, renewable energy projects have been, and continue  
9 to be, sited on agricultural lands, including lands with  
10 existing agricultural activity, and according to the Aloha+  
11 Challenge Benchmark Report, food production in the State has  
12 decreased since 2018; and  
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14           WHEREAS, Act 233, Session Laws of Hawaii 2008, triggered a  
15 process to identify, map, and designate important agricultural  
16 lands throughout the State, but no similar effort has been done  
17 to quantify the required acreage for renewable energy  
18 production; and  
19

20           WHEREAS, a significant amount of agricultural lands are not  
21 farmable due to poor soil quality, lava, rocks, or steep slopes  
22 and ravines, however much of these lands may be suitable for  
23 renewable energy projects; and  
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25           WHEREAS, hundreds of thousands of acres of developed land  
26 outside the agricultural district could support more rooftop  
27 solar energy projects by increasing capacity at existing  
28 locations and maximizing space over parking lots and roadways;  
29 and  
30



1           WHEREAS, the State Energy Office has developed two powerful  
2 and dynamic data visualization programs: the Hawaii Advanced  
3 Visualization Environment Nexus and the Hawaii Energy  
4 Visualization Initiative, which can be used by the Office of  
5 Planning and the Land Use Commission to support a proactive  
6 review of land availability and the need for each of the  
7 renewable energy technologies; now, therefore,  
8

9           BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-first  
10 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2021, the  
11 House of Representatives concurring, that the Office of  
12 Planning, in consultation with the State Energy Office, Land Use  
13 Commission, planning departments of each county, and electric  
14 utility companies, with public input, is requested to quantify  
15 the amount of land needed to meet renewable energy goals and to  
16 meet food sustainability goals and to make recommendations for  
17 future siting considerations to meet both goals; and  
18

19           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the report should provide the  
20 estimated land requirements to meet renewable energy goals and  
21 food sustainability goals for each county; and  
22

23           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Office of Planning is  
24 requested to submit a report on its findings and recommendations  
25 to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the  
26 convening of the Regular Session of 2022; and  
27

28           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
29 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of the  
30 Office of Planning, Chief Energy Officer of the State Energy  
31 Office, Chairperson of the Land Use Commission, Chairperson of  
32 the Public Utilities Commission, Director of the Kauai County  
33 Planning Department, Director of the Maui County Department of  
34 Planning, Director of the City and County of Honolulu Department  
35 of Planning and Permitting, Director of the County of Hawaii  
36 Planning Department, Chief Executive Officer of Kauai Island  
37



# S.C.R. NO. 199

1 Utility Cooperative, Chief Executive Officer of Maui Electric  
2 Company, Chief Executive Officer of Hawaii Electric Light  
3 Company, and Chief Executive Officer of Hawaii Electric Company.

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OFFERED BY:

*[Handwritten Signature]*

