

MAR 11 2021

SENATE RESOLUTION

URGING THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM AND DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION TO INCLUDE TRAINING, COURSES, AND CURRICULA
RELATED TO THE MECHANICS, REPAIR, AND MAINTENANCE OF
ELECTRIC VEHICLES, HYDROGEN VEHICLES, AND OTHER ALTERNATIVE
FUEL VEHICLES IN THEIR PROGRAMS.

1 WHEREAS, the impacts of climate change are becoming
2 increasingly urgent on the natural and human environment, and,
3 as such, the State recognizes the importance of eliminating
4 fossil fuels and transitioning to clean energy across all
5 sectors; and

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7 WHEREAS, the use of fossil fuels is the State's primary
8 contributor to greenhouse gas emissions, and the State's
9 dependence on fossil fuels drains the economy of billions of
10 dollars each year; and

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12 WHEREAS, the transportation sector accounts for the use of
13 over two-thirds of the oil imported into the State; and

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15 WHEREAS, drivers spend nearly \$2,000,000,000 annually on
16 gasoline and diesel for their cars and trucks, and the
17 combustion of that fuel releases approximately eleven billion
18 pounds of climate-changing carbon dioxide into the atmosphere
19 each year, a major cause of global warming; and

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21 WHEREAS, Hawaii currently has upwards of ten thousand
22 electric vehicles on the road, and this number will continue to
23 increase as electric vehicles become more readily available and
24 cost-effective for the public and as the State expands its
25 electric vehicle charging infrastructure; and



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1 WHEREAS, Hawaii ranks in the top five states nationally for
 2 adoption of electric vehicles based on the percentage of
 3 vehicles purchased; and

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 5 WHEREAS, mechanics and others who perform repair and
 6 maintenance of electric vehicles require special tools, safety
 7 equipment, and technician training; and

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 9 WHEREAS, it is estimated that only three percent of
 10 automotive technicians have the skill set to work on electric
 11 vehicles; and

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 13 WHEREAS, only limited courses focused on electric vehicle
 14 mechanics, repair, and maintenance are offered through
 15 University of Hawaii and Department of Education programs; and

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 17 WHEREAS, given the increasing adoption of electric vehicles
 18 across the State, this body finds that it is necessary to
 19 develop a workforce of automotive technicians who are trained in
 20 the mechanics, repair, and maintenance of electric vehicles,
 21 hydrogen vehicles, and other alternative fuel vehicles; now,
 22 therefore,

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 24 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-first
 25 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2021,
 26 that this body urges the University of Hawaii System and
 27 Department of Education to include training, courses, and
 28 curricula related to the mechanics, repair, and maintenance of
 29 electric vehicles, hydrogen vehicles, and other alternative fuel
 30 vehicles in their respective programs; and

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 32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 33 Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the Board of
 34 Regents of the University of Hawaii, President of the University
 35 of Hawaii System, Chairperson of the Board of Education, and
 36 Superintendent of Education.

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 39 OFFERED BY: _____


