

Resolution on Renewable Energy

WHEREAS, oil prices have risen from \$11 a barrel in 1998 to more than \$30 a barrel presently; and

WHEREAS, Hawaii depends on imported oil for about 93% of its energy needs, resulting in an outflow of hundreds of millions of dollars and jobs; and

WHEREAS, oil is a finite resource with a growing demand that will continue to drive prices up, thus making the development of renewable energy resources more viable; and

WHEREAS, the price of oil is also determined by global politics, something that the State has no control over; and

WHEREAS, Hawaii is blessed with many potential renewable energy resources, such as solar, biomass, and wind, the development of which can begin to moderate the risks and vulnerability associated with a continued dependence on imported fossil fuel; and

WHEREAS, the burning of fossil fuels is a major contributor to global warming, while the development and use of renewable energy addresses our expectations for a cleaner environment; and

WHEREAS, the development and greater use of renewable energy will promote a cleaner environment, delay the need for new fossil-fuel burning electricity-generation facilities, create new jobs, and strengthen our economy by keeping local dollars within the State; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Kula Community Association Board of Directors that this body supports the use of renewable energy, and requests the Hawaii State Legislature to consider legislation to foster the development and use of indigenous natural resources to set the foundation for a strong economic and environmental future for Hawaii powered by clean energy; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Kula Community Association Board of Directors that this body urges the Maui County Council to support an energy future for Maui County that will protect our environment, reduce our dependence on imported fuel, and create local jobs.