RESOLUTION

URGING THE CITY ADMINISTRATION TO ESTABLISH GOALS FOR 100 PERCENT RENEWABLE ENERGY AND A CARBON NEUTRAL ECONOMY TO ACCELERATE THE CITY OF HONOLULU'S ADOPTION OF THE 2018 CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION SUMMIT POLICIES.

WHEREAS, a destabilized global climate, changing ocean temperatures, and the impacts of melting ice masses from Greenland to Antarctica are manifested in Hawaii, as evidenced by more frequent and bigger storms, beach loss to higher tides and rising sea levels, higher average temperatures, decreased trade winds, dying coral reefs, and periods of drought and heavy rain with flooding; and

WHEREAS, Hawaii's host culture continues to value Ohana, Malama, Kuleana, and Aloha; and in June 2015, people of all faiths celebrated Pope Francis' encyclical "Praised Be (Laudato Si): On the Care of Our Common Home," affirming our shared moral responsibility to address climate change and mitigate the inequities of environmental exploitation; and

WHEREAS, in November 2016, 195 countries signed the Paris Agreement under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change ("Paris Agreement") as an historic global effort to combat climate change; and the withdrawal of U.S. international participation called forth immediate action by local governments in the U.S., as well as independent action by local communities, businesses, and utilities to reduce greenhouse gas emissions; and

WHEREAS, in 2016, Honolulu voters approved a charter amendment establishing the City and County of Honolulu ("City") Office of Climate Change, Sustainability and Resiliency and the Honolulu Climate Change Commission; and

WHEREAS, Act 32, Session Laws of Hawaii ("SLH") 2017, established the Hawaii Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission ("State Climate Commission"), in recognition of the need for immediate and unprecedented levels of intergovernmental cooperation and commitment to reducing greenhouse gas emissions in accordance with the Paris Agreement, and a "bold energy agenda" to achieve 100 percent clean energy by 2045; and

WHEREAS, in 2017, the State Climate Commission's "Hawaii Sea Level Rise Vulnerability and Adaptation Report" acknowledged that 3.2 feet of sea level rise could occur as early as mid-century, causing an estimated 9,400 acres on Oahu to experience chronic flooding that will impact nearly 4,000 structures; and
WHEREAS, Act 15, SLH 2018, established a statewide target to achieve carbon neutrality (i.e., sequester more atmospheric carbon and greenhouse gases than emitted within the state) as quickly as practicable, but no later than 2045; and

WHEREAS, the transportation sector uses almost two-thirds of all petroleum consumed in Hawaii, and significant transportation emission reductions are essential to achieving 100 percent renewable and carbon neutrality goals; in December 2017, Hawaii’s four mayors committed to 100 percent clean ground transportation by 2045, and Mayor Caldwell pledged to lead by example and transition to a 100 percent renewable energy-powered City fleet by 2035; and

WHEREAS, in 2017, Mayor Caldwell signed the Chicago Climate Charter, committing the City Administration to "partner with . . . environmental advocates . . . to develop holistic climate . . . solutions," and in response to the findings and guidance of the Honolulu Climate Change Commission, Mayor Caldwell issued a 2018 directive that requires all City departments and agencies under the Mayor’s jurisdiction to view climate change action as an urgent matter and act proactively to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and to prepare the City for the physical and economic impacts resulting from climate change; and

WHEREAS, further reliance on fossil fuels or new fossil fuel infrastructure unnecessarily delays a transition to 100 percent renewable energy, which is necessary for achieving carbon neutrality goals, and according to the 2018 "Transcending Oil: Hawaii’s Path to a Clean Energy Economy" report, Hawaii can deploy renewable energy at a faster rate than current State goals and at a lower cost to ratepayers; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City and County of Honolulu ("Council") that it supports the goal of achieving a 100 percent renewable-powered City ground transportation fleet by 2035, and supports the acceleration of progress towards carbon neutrality and 100 percent renewable energy by 2045, as set forth in State law, or earlier; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Council supports reducing the carbon footprint of new and existing public and private buildings and infrastructure through increased energy efficiency measures, renewable energy installations, and performance standards, as outlined in the Chicago Climate Charter; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Administration is requested to create a Climate Action Plan that establishes comprehensive milestones to transition Oahu to 100 percent renewable energy on the path to carbon neutrality by 2045, or earlier, to
evaluate and recommend best available practices as they emerge, to report annually on
the status and progress of all targets and goals, and to build upon the effective network
of government agencies, social/economic/environmental community leadership, and
grassroots community necessary to meet or exceed all community-based target dates in
the Climate Action Plan; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Office of Climate Change, Sustainability
and Resiliency report on Honolulu’s participation in the 2018 Climate Change Action
Summit and provide recommendations for specific budgetary and other appropriate
actions to implement the City's next 2019 and 2020 steps in its Climate Action Plan; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be transmitted to the
Mayor, Managing Director, Chief Resilience Officer and Executive Director of the Office
of Climate Change, Sustainability and Resiliency, the Honolulu Climate Change
Commission, and Hawaii Interfaith Power & Light (HIPL).

INTRODUCED BY:

DATE OF INTRODUCTION:

OCT 05 2018
Honolulu, Hawaii

Councilmembers