
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE TO STUDY THE IMPACT OF RATE
INCREASES ON FARMER USERS OF THE MOLOKAI IRRIGATION SYSTEM
TO ASSIST FARMERS TO INCREASE PRODUCTION.

1 WHEREAS, the majority of users of the Molokai irrigation
2 system are farmers and ranchers in central areas of Hoolehua and
3 Kualapuu; and

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5 WHEREAS, the margins from agricultural activities on
6 Molokai have historically been narrow and the viability of
7 continued and future agricultural activities on Molokai is
8 precarious; and

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10 WHEREAS, any increase in costs, including fees and water
11 charges for irrigation water from the Molokai irrigation system,
12 to these farmers and ranchers greatly impacts their production
13 and livelihood; and

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15 WHEREAS, many of these farmers and ranchers are also in
16 need of assistance in all areas of agricultural production,
17 including but not limited to proper husbandry of crops and
18 animals, selection of products, financing programs, and
19 marketing programs; now, therefore,

20
21 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
22 Twenty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
23 of 2006, the Senate concurring, that the Board of Agriculture is
24 requested to extend its assistance to Molokai farmers and
25 ranchers that are users of the Molokai irrigation system by:

- 26
27 (1) Studying the impacts of future increases of fees and
28 water charges, including water tolls and acreage
29 assessments, on the operations of its irrigation
30 users;

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- 1 (2) Working with its irrigation users in dealing with
- 2 times of drought or limited water resources and
- 3 keeping them informed of problems involving the
- 4 repair, maintenance, and operation of the system; and
- 5
- 6 (3) Aggressively making available to all its irrigation
- 7 users and other farmers on Molokai, the various
- 8 educational, operational, financing, and marketing
- 9 programs that it has to offer to farmers and ranchers;
- 10 and
- 11

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Agriculture is
 13 requested to submit a report of its findings and recommendations
 14 to the Legislature not later than twenty days prior to the
 15 convening of the Regular Session of 2007; and

16
 17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this
 18 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the
 19 Board of Agriculture.

OFFERED BY:

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