
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO
EXPEDITIOUSLY PURSUE THE PRIVATIZED CONSTRUCTION,
OPERATION, AND MAINTENANCE OF SMALL BOAT BERTHING
FACILITIES AT KEEHI LAGOON, PARALLEL TO LAGOON DRIVE.

1 WHEREAS, for years, the State of Hawaii has experienced a
2 continuing and increasing demand for quality berthing and
3 moorage facilities in both public small boat harbors and private
4 marinas throughout the State; and

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6 WHEREAS, in 1990, the final environmental impact statement
7 for the Keehi Lagoon Recreation Plan that proposed a significant
8 increase in the number of needed recreational and commercial
9 boating berths was completed by the Department of Transportation
10 and accepted by the Governor; and

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12 WHEREAS, the development objectives for Keehi Lagoon
13 proposed the use of private sector funds to implement the
14 recommendations of the updated Keehi Lagoon Recreation Plan by
15 leasing unimproved and unused areas to a private developer and
16 generating lease rent revenues to the State; and

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18 WHEREAS, although the State has continued to encourage
19 development of marina facilities by the private sector to help
20 meet the demand for berthing space over the last twenty years,
21 only Ko Olina Marina has been completed and placed in operation
22 due apparently to the prolonged and costly process of obtaining
23 necessary county, state, and federal permits and approvals and
24 the lack of available financing; and

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26 WHEREAS, the State's existing small boat harbors are in
27 serious disrepair with piers and moorage slips in continuing
28 deteriorating condition or completely collapsing, but funds have
29 not been available to address direly needed improvements with
30 costs conservatively estimated at more than \$300,000,000; and
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1 WHEREAS, state funds have not been allocated and will
2 continue to be unavailable to meet the increasing, unmet demand
3 for small boat berthing facilities on Oahu and throughout the
4 State; and

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6 WHEREAS, general funds should not be used for either new
7 boating facilities or the repair of existing facilities because
8 the general public should not absorb costs benefiting a special
9 user group, rather that required funding should emanate from
10 internal boating activity revenues, including berthing and
11 moorage fees and other boating generated income; and

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13 WHEREAS, the Department of Land and Natural Resources has
14 formally entered into an agreement with a private developer to
15 excavate the fast lands adjacent to Honokohau Small Boat Harbor
16 on the island of Hawaii to meet the demands of additional
17 moorage and berthing facilities in Kona; and

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19 WHEREAS, private companies continue to express interest in
20 developing boating and ocean recreation facilities in Keehi
21 Lagoon and, in the absence of state funds, may be the only means
22 to effect the development of this valuable resource; and

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24 WHEREAS, the enormous potential at Keehi Lagoon,
25 paralleling Lagoon Drive, provides opportunity for both hundreds
26 and possibly up to one thousand new slips and substantial new
27 income for the Department of Land and Natural Resources, Boating
28 and Ocean Recreation Division, utilizing private funds for
29 initial construction as well as ongoing operational and
30 maintenance expenses; now, therefore,

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32 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
33 Twenty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
34 of 2006, the Senate concurring, that the Board of Land and
35 Natural Resources is requested to meet with all stakeholders and
36 registered users of Keehi Lagoon, including the Office of
37 Hawaiian Affairs and canoe paddling clubs, to discuss the
38 utilization of Keehi Lagoon, parallel to Lagoon Drive, for the
39 purpose of constructing small boat berthing facilities; and

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41 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Land and Natural
42 Resources is requested to ensure that any boating facilities and
43 operations do not conflict with canoe paddling or any other
44 ongoing sanctioned activity; and



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2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Governor is requested to
3 transfer the jurisdiction and management of lands at Keehi
4 Lagoon, parallel to Lagoon Drive, from the Department of
5 Transportation to the Department of Land and Natural Resources;
6 and

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8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
9 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, the
10 Chairperson of the Board of Trustees of the Office of Hawaiian
11 Affairs, the Director of Transportation, and the Chairperson of
12 the Board of Land and Natural Resources, who, in turn, is
13 requested to transmit copies to all listed lessees, licensees,
14 and other registered users of Keehi Lagoon.

