
HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE CHAIR OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON TOURISM AND CULTURE TO DESIGNATE A MEMBER OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON TOURISM AND CULTURE TO CONDUCT INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS ON WAYS TO REPLICATE THE HISTORIC IWILEI PINEAPPLE-SHAPED WATER TANK.

1 WHEREAS, there are but a handful of historic water tanks in
2 the United States that were constructed to represent a certain
3 industry, and the Dole pineapple-shaped water tank located in
4 the district of Iwilei, erected in 1927, was regarded as a
5 particularly significant and symbolic architectural structure;
6 and

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8 WHEREAS, the Dole water tank was more famous than the peach
9 water tower in Clanton, Alabama, and the Brooks Foods ketchup
10 bottle water tower in Cillinsville, Illinois; and

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12 WHEREAS, the original pineapple water tank was an
13 attractively painted work of art, weighed 30 tons and held
14 100,000 gallons of water that was used to drive the cannery's
15 sprinkler system, and stood as a prominent Honolulu landmark
16 next to the now-defunct cannery in Iwilei; and

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18 WHEREAS, the famous and beloved old water tank was finally
19 taken down in 1993 and placed in storage because it had become
20 frail, badly corroded, and apt to topple in a strong wind; and

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22 WHEREAS, pineapple and sugar were the two major
23 agricultural crops upon which the economy of Hawaii rested
24 before the onset of tourism; and

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26 WHEREAS, the thousands of Hawaii residents who worked in
27 the pineapple industry, their lives intertwined and affected by
28 this mainstay of Hawaiian agriculture, include:

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30 (1) Agricultural workers, many whom immigrated to Hawaii
31 in search of employment and a better life;
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1 (2) Managerial, financial, transportation, and
2 distribution personnel; and

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4 (3) Cannery workers, including many students who worked
5 during summer vacation to pay their way through school
6 and many others;

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8 and

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10 WHEREAS, numerous Nimitz Highway motorists can recall the
11 aromatic emanations from the cannery at the height of the
12 pineapple canning season until its closure in 1991; and

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14 WHEREAS, the replacement of the pineapple water tank would
15 serve as an attraction for today's tourists and educate people
16 about the importance of pineapple in Hawaii's history; and

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18 WHEREAS, most importantly, the water tank would stand as a
19 memorial to the thousands of residents who earned a living
20 through "pine" and were part of a great industry that
21 represented a long-gone era; now, therefore,

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23 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
24 Twenty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
25 of 2006, that the Chair of the House Committee on Tourism and
26 Culture is requested to designate a member of the House
27 Committee on Tourism and Culture to conduct informal discussions
28 on ways to replicate the historic Iwilei pineapple-shaped water
29 tank; and

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31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
32 Resolution be transmitted to the Administrator of the State
33 Historic Preservation Division within the Department of Land and
34 Natural Resources, Chair of the American Studies Department at
35 the University of Hawaii at Manoa, ILWU, Honolulu Chamber of
36 Commerce, Chairperson of the state Department of Agriculture,
37 Historic Hawaii Foundation, Hawaii Farm Bureau, Hawaii
38 Agriculture Research Center, Pineapple Growers of Hawaii, Castle
39 & Cooke Hawaii, and the Chair of the House Committee on Tourism
40 and Culture.

