
HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES AND THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE ON THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN VARIOUS KAILUA WATERWAYS, INCLUDING THE KAELEPULU POND, AND THE WATER QUALITY AND NATURAL RESOURCES OF KAILUA BEACH AND KAILUA BAY.

1 WHEREAS, the Kaelepulu pond in the community of Enchanted
2 Lake on the windward side of Oahu is a natural estuary that was
3 formerly part of a native Hawaiian fishpond; and
4

5 WHEREAS, the Kaelepulu pond is on the state Department of
6 Health's list of impaired waters; and
7

8 WHEREAS, the Kaelepulu pond and Kailua canals receive
9 runoff from storm drains and sediments as part of the federal
10 National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permitting
11 program, but the runoff and sediments deposited into these
12 bodies of water have contributed to significant shallowing of
13 the waters; and
14

15 WHEREAS, the Kaelepulu pond supports abundant marine fish
16 populations and provides a breeding habitat for at least three
17 species of endangered Hawaiian waterfowl; and
18

19 WHEREAS, the Kaelepulu stream is joined by the water
20 remnant of Kawainui stream, which no longer drains Kawainui
21 marsh due to the construction of flood control dikes, and is
22 therefore a dead-end stream with low water quality; and
23

24 WHEREAS, the Kaelepulu stream, which empties Kaelepulu pond
25 and Kawainui stream, enters the state waters of Kailua bay
26 across a state beach and through a popular City and County of
27 Honolulu beach park; and
28

29 WHEREAS, there have been a number of studies funded by
30 county, state, and federal governments and a private source
31 relating to water quality, hydrology, and natural resources of
32 these systems; now, therefore,



1
 2 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
 3 Twenty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
 4 of 2006, that the Department of Land and Natural Resources and
 5 the Department of Health are requested to submit a joint report
 6 to the Legislature summarizing information from previous reports
 7 and studies to reach an understanding of the:

- 8
 9 (1) Probable impact of the Kaelepulu pond estuary on the
 10 water quality and natural resources of Kailua bay, as
 11 well as the potential health risks to beachgoers;
 12
 13 (2) Probable causes of decreased water quality in the
 14 estuary system;
 15
 16 (3) Information gaps that need to be addressed to clarify
 17 existing problems and potential solutions;
 18
 19 (4) Reasonable approaches that could be investigated to
 20 improve the water quality and natural resources of the
 21 estuary system and its impact on state beaches and
 22 waters in Kailua bay; and
 23
 24 (5) Potential solutions that could be implemented, with
 25 consideration for the mixed ownership and control of
 26 various portions of this integrated estuary and ocean
 27 system by the state, county, and federal governments
 28 and private entities; and
 29

30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Land and
 31 Natural Resources and the Department of Health are requested to
 32 submit findings and recommendations to the Legislature no later
 33 than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session
 34 of 2007; and
 35

36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 37 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, the Chairperson of
 38 the Board of Land and Natural Resources, and the Director of
 39 Health.
 40
 41
 42

OFFERED BY:

Goh Dun
Mark Tanaka
Pono Chong
Ken A. Oshiro
BZ
Tommy Wata

