
HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES AND THE DEPARTMENT OF FACILITY MAINTENANCE OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU, 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, Kaelepulu pond in the community of Enchanted Lake
2 on the windward side of Oahu is a natural estuary that was
3 formerly part of a native Hawaiian fishpond; and
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5 WHEREAS, Kaelepulu pond is on the Department of Health's
6 (DOH) list of impaired waters; and
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8 WHEREAS, Kaelepulu pond and Kailua's canals receive runoff
9 from storm drains and sediments as part of the federal National
10 Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permitting program, but
11 the runoff and sediments deposited into these bodies of water
12 have contributed to significant shallowing of the waters; and
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14 WHEREAS, Kaelepulu pond supports abundant marine fish
15 populations and provides a breeding habitat for at least three
16 species of endangered Hawaiian waterfowl; and
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18 WHEREAS, Kaelepulu stream is joined by the water remnant of
19 Kawainui stream, which no longer drains Kawainui marsh due to
20 the construction of flood control dikes, and is therefore a
21 dead-end stream with low water quality; and
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23 WHEREAS, Kaelepulu stream, which empties Kaelepulu pond and
24 Kawainui stream, enters the state waters of Kailua Bay across a
25 state beach and through a popular City and County of Honolulu
26 beach park; and



1 WHEREAS, there have been a number of studies funded by
2 county, state, and federal governments and a private source
3 relating to water quality, hydrology, and natural resources of
4 these systems; now, therefore,
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6 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
7 Twenty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
8 of 2006, the Senate concurring, that DOH, with the assistance of
9 the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) and the
10 Department of Facility Maintenance of the City and County of
11 Honolulu (DFM), is requested to submit a report to the
12 Legislature summarizing information from previous reports and
13 studies to reach an understanding of:
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- 15 (1) The probable impact of the Kaelepulu pond estuary on
16 the water quality and natural resources of Kailua Bay,
17 as well as the potential health risks to beachgoers;
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- 19 (2) The probable causes of decreased water quality in the
20 estuary system;
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- 22 (3) Information gaps that need to be addressed to clarify
23 existing problems and potential solutions;
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- 25 (4) Reasonable approaches that could be investigated to
26 improve the water quality and natural resources of the
27 estuary system and its impact on state beaches and
28 waters in Kailua Bay; and
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- 30 (5) Potential solutions that could be implemented, with
31 consideration for the mixed ownership and control of
32 various portions of this integrated estuary and ocean
33 system by the state, county, and federal governments
34 and private entities;
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36 and
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38 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that DOH, with the assistance of
39 DLNR and DFM, is requested to submit findings and
40 recommendations to the Legislature at least 20 days prior to the
41 convening of the Regular Session of 2008; and



- 1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
- 2 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor,
- 3 Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources, Director
- 4 of Health, and Director and Chief Engineer of DFM.

