
HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AND THE DEPARTMENT OF
TRANSPORTATION TO WORK COLLABORATIVELY TO PURSUE, ON A
PRIORITY BASIS, THE RELOCATION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII
MARINE CENTER FROM THE FORMER KAPALAMA MILITARY
RESERVATION, HONOLULU HARBOR.

1 WHEREAS, the Department of Transportation (DOT) has
2 jurisdiction over Honolulu Harbor as provided under Chapter 266,
3 Hawaii Revised Statutes; and
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5 WHEREAS, the mission of DOT is to provide a safe,
6 efficient, accessible, and inter-modal transportation system
7 that ensures and preserves economic prosperity and quality of
8 life; and
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10 WHEREAS, nearly 80 percent of all goods used in our state
11 is imported, and of this amount, 98.6 per cent is brought
12 through the commercial harbor system; and
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14 WHEREAS, Honolulu Harbor represents the primary port for
15 the movement of cargo and the operation of passenger cruise
16 vessels into and out of the state; and
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18 WHEREAS, the inter-island system of cargo distribution that
19 is based from Honolulu Harbor is the principal means by which
20 Neighbor Island communities receive and export their cargo and
21 Honolulu Harbor is the hub from which goods are consolidated and
22 distributed to the Neighbor Islands; and
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24 WHEREAS, the Legislature finds that maritime lands are a
25 valuable, especially critical, and finite resource of the State;
26 and
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28 WHEREAS, DOT's Oahu Commercial Harbors 2020 Master Plan
29 projects that Honolulu Harbor will reach maximum capacity to
30 handle domestic cargo by the year 2011 unless additional cargo
31 processing terminals are developed and placed into use; and
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1 WHEREAS, DOT's Oahu Commercial Harbors 2020 Master Plan
2 further identified the former Kapalama Military Reservation
3 property as its primary area for redevelopment of expansion
4 lands for maritime use; and
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6 WHEREAS, the former Kapalama Military Reservation was
7 purchased by the State from the federal government with the
8 express purpose of redeveloping the property to expand cargo
9 handling operations in Honolulu Harbor; and
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11 WHEREAS, both DOT and the Hawaii Harbors Users Group
12 (HHUG), a nonprofit maritime transportation industry
13 organization, have identified the redevelopment of the former
14 Kapalama Military Reservation as the number one long-term
15 priority for Honolulu Harbor; and
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17 WHEREAS, the first key step toward redevelopment of the
18 former Kapalama Military Reservation is to relocate the
19 University of Hawaii Marine Center (Marine Center), which
20 currently holds at gratis, a long-term lease of approximately 17
21 acres along the harbor frontage from the Department of Land and
22 Natural Resources (DLNR); and
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24 WHEREAS, the area held by the Marine Center is crucial for
25 pier development to berth cargo ships that will support the new
26 cargo terminal; and
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28 WHEREAS, DOT has offered the Marine Center a relocation
29 area within Honolulu Harbor; and
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31 WHEREAS, DLNR is cognizant of the initial legislative
32 intent behind the purchase of the former Kapalama Military
33 Reservation and is being kept apprised by DOT of its efforts to
34 acquire the Marine Center parcel from the University of Hawaii
35 (UH) for the purpose of accommodating the development and
36 expansion of the Honolulu Harbor; and
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38 WHEREAS, the Marine Center is aware of the long-standing
39 goal of relocating it for the purpose of expansion of maritime
40 operations but has expressed concerns that the expansion not
41 impede its ability to continue important research programs that
42 require berthing and land-based facilities; and
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1 WHEREAS, DOT is aware of the importance of the Marine
2 Center, its significance to the scientific community, and the
3 impact it has on marine research and education, both for UH and
4 the worldwide scientific community, and recognizes the
5 invaluable service the Marine Center provides to various
6 stakeholders, as well as the general public; and
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8 WHEREAS, the relocation of the Marine Center must be
9 accomplished on a priority basis to avoid a crisis situation for
10 cargo handling capacity by the year 2011; and
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12 WHEREAS, prior to the relocation of the Marine Center, DOT
13 and UH need to work collaboratively to find a suitable location
14 that would be beneficial for all parties involved; now,
15 therefore,
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17 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
18 Twenty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
19 of 2006, that UH and DOT are requested to collaborate, on a
20 priority basis, to effectuate the relocation of UH Marine
21 Center; and
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23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hawaii Harbors Users Group
24 is requested to include representatives of UH's School of Ocean
25 and Earth Science and Technology, as well as the UH Marine
26 Center, in its harbor planning process regarding the development
27 of harbor lands; and
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29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that prior to the relocation of the
30 University of Hawaii Marine Center, DOT and UH find a suitable
31 location offering comparable dock space, storage and staging
32 areas, services, size, and proximity to UH, which is beneficial
33 to all parties involved and ensure that funding is available for
34 its relocation; and
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36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the UH and DOT are requested to
37 report to the Legislature no later than 20 days prior to the
38 convening of the Regular Session of 2007 on their progress to
39 relocate the Marine Center; and
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41 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
42 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, the Director of
43 Transportation, the Chair of the Board of Land and Natural



- 1 Resources, the President and the Chairperson of the Board of
- 2 Regents of the University of Hawaii, and the President of the
- 3 Hawaii Harbors Users Group.

