
HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES AND THE
COUNTIES TO CONDUCT A STUDY OF ALL STREAMS AND DRAINAGE
CHANNELS IN THE STATE OF HAWAII.

1 WHEREAS, recent heavy rains have caused millions of dollars
2 in damage to private and public property throughout the state;
3 and
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5 WHEREAS, rain storms over the past six years have also
6 caused millions of dollars in damage to private and public
7 property; and
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9 WHEREAS, much of the damage caused by these rain storms
10 have been concentrated around streams and drainage channels,
11 many of which are privately owned; and
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13 WHEREAS, during the aftermath of these rain storms, private
14 owners and governmental agencies have been reluctant to take
15 responsibility for the cleanup and restoration of these streams
16 and drainage channels; and
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18 WHEREAS, because streams and drainage channels throughout
19 the state have not been maintained, they have become a public
20 health and safety issue during and after these rain storms; now,
21 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 Board of Land and Natural Resources (BLNR) and
26 the counties are requested to conduct a study of all streams and
27 drainage channels in the State of Hawaii; and
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29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature requests that the
30 study include but not limited to the following issues:
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- 32 (1) A determination of ownership of all streams and
33 drainage channels statewide;
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- 1 (2) An assessment of the damage to private and public
2 property caused by the overflow of these streams and
3 drainage channels;
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- 5 (3) Creation of strategic plans to address the maintenance
6 of public and privately owned streams and drainage
7 channels;
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- 9 (4) Creation of action plans to address the cleanup and
10 restoration of these public and privately owned
11 streams and drainage channels in the aftermath of a
12 storm; and
- 13
- 14 (5) A recommendation as to whether all privately owned
15 streams and drainage channels should be owned,
16 maintained, cleaned up, and restored by the State or
17 the counties in the aftermath of a rain storm;

18
19 and

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21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the BLNR and the counties are
22 requested to submit their findings and recommendations to the
23 Legislature, including any necessary proposed legislation, no
24 later than 20 days prior to the convening of the Regular Session
25 of 2007; and

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27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
28 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, the Chairperson of
29 the Board of Land and Natural Resources, and the Mayor and
30 Chairperson of the Council of each county.

