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# SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND THE COUNTY FIRE CHIEFS TO COLLABORATE AND COOPERATE TO REACH A MUTUALLY AGREEABLE SOLUTION OVER FIRE INSPECTION RESPONSIBILITIES AT THE HONOLULU INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT AND OTHER STATE AIRPORTS.

1 WHEREAS, the state and county fire departments have  
2 concurrent jurisdiction over state-owned airport facilities; and  
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4 WHEREAS, the Department of Transportation has Aircraft  
5 Rescue and Firefighting crews stationed at airports to carry out  
6 responsibilities pursuant to Title 14, C.F.R. part 139; and  
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8 WHEREAS, Aircraft Rescue and Firefighting crews located at  
9 airports are not trained and do not have the necessary staff to  
10 conduct fire inspections of the airport area; and  
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12 WHEREAS, Aircraft Rescue and Firefighting crews stationed  
13 at airports specialize in fighting fires at state airports and  
14 do not conduct fire inspections at the state airports, and that  
15 responsibility has been relegated to county fire departments;  
16 and  
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18 WHEREAS, section 261-1, Hawaii Revised Statutes, relating  
19 to aeronautics, defines "airport" as any area of land or water  
20 which is used, or intended for use, for the landing and takeoff  
21 of aircraft, and any appurtenant areas which are used, or  
22 intended for use, for airport buildings or other airport  
23 facilities or rights-of-way, including approaches, together with  
24 all airport buildings and facilities located thereon; and  
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26 WHEREAS, the Honolulu International Airport is a vast area  
27 that encompasses much more than the actual airport facilities  
28 and includes surrounding buildings and warehouses, which take  
29 one year to inspect on an intermittent basis according to the  
30 Honolulu Fire Department; and  
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1 WHEREAS, current law requires the county fire chief to  
2 conduct fire inspections of state-owned buildings and facilities  
3 pursuant to sections 132-5 and 132-6, Hawaii Revised Statutes;  
4 and

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6 WHEREAS, section 132-6 specifically requires the State to  
7 conduct fire and safety inspections at all state-owned airport  
8 facilities at least once a year; and

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10 WHEREAS, Senate Standing Committee Report No. 2964 of the  
11 Senate Committee on Transportation and Intergovernmental Affairs  
12 on H.B. No. 2872 which enacted the above amendment to section  
13 132-6 (Act 282, Session Laws of Hawaii 1998), stated in  
14 pertinent part:

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16 [Y]our Committee is aware of the difficulty county  
17 fire departments are experiencing in attempting to  
18 conduct annual fire inspections at all county, state,  
19 and private facilities with their limited resources.

20  
21 Your Committee discovered during its discussions with  
22 the Department of Transportation and the Fire  
23 Department of the City and County of Honolulu, that  
24 the State has personnel who are qualified to conduct  
25 fire inspections at airport facilities;

26  
27 and

28  
29 WHEREAS, the public safety requires that all state airports  
30 be inspected by knowledgeable fire inspectors, whether state or  
31 county firefighters; and

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33 WHEREAS, the Department of Transportation and the county  
34 fire departments should work out an agreement to conduct fire  
35 inspections of airport facilities, particularly the Honolulu  
36 International Airport, notwithstanding the current law; now,  
37 therefore,

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39 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-third  
40 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2006, the  
41 House of Representatives concurring, that the Department of  
42 Transportation and Honolulu Fire Department collaborate and  
43 cooperate to reach a mutually agreeable solution to fire



1 inspection responsibilities at the Honolulu International  
2 Airport and other state airports; and

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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of  
5 Transportation and the county fire chiefs work on a plan for the  
6 efficient and effective fire inspection of all airport  
7 facilities; and

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9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of  
10 Transportation report to the Legislature no later than twenty  
11 days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2007 on  
12 the progress towards reaching a solution or agreement on fire  
13 inspection responsibilities at Honolulu International Airport  
14 and other state airports; and

15  
16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
17 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of  
18 Transportation, the Governor, the Mayor of the City and County  
19 of Honolulu, the Mayor of Maui County, the Mayor of Hawaii  
20 County, the Mayor of Kauai County, the State Fire Council, the  
21 Fire Chief of Honolulu, the Fire Chief of Hawaii County, the  
22 Fire Chief of Kauai County, and the Fire Chief of Maui County.

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OFFERED BY: *Jamaine G. Fungo*

