
SENATE CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION

URGING THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU TO PROCEED WITH CAUTION
IN REVIEWING DEVELOPMENTS ON STEEP HILLSIDES WITH POTENTIAL
ROCKFALL HAZARDS.

1 WHEREAS, a private landowner intends to develop a nine-lot
2 subdivision on approximately fifty acres in Dowsett Highlands,
3 Nuuanu, Oahu, on the property identified by tax map key numbers
4 2-2-47:3 and 5; and
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6 WHEREAS, this property is located above existing homes
7 between Ragsdale Place and Kamuela Place and has a steep
8 terrain; and
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10 WHEREAS, the City and County of Honolulu (City) approved
11 residential zoning of this property decades ago and is currently
12 processing a subdivision application by the landowner; and
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14 WHEREAS, homeowners below the property are opposed to the
15 subdivision, believing it will create rockfall, landslide, and
16 flooding hazards, and have collected more than one thousand
17 signatures on a petition; and
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19 WHEREAS, there have been rockfalls that have occurred in
20 Nuuanu valley, including a boulder which killed 26-year-old Dara
21 Onishi in 2002;
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23 WHEREAS, other rockfalls have occurred around the island of
24 Oahu damaging property and risking people's health and safety;
25 and
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27 WHEREAS, the land located uphill of the proposed Nuuanu
28 subdivision is owned by the Department of Land and Natural
29 Resources; and
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31 WHEREAS, developments that are approved and constructed
32 above pristine, undeveloped State mountainous lands may expose



1 the State to liability should rockfalls occur from its lands;
2 and

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4 WHEREAS, the City, as the approving entity of developments,
5 must strive to protect landowners both below and above from
6 potential rockfall and landslide hazards; now, therefore,

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8 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-third
9 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2006, the
10 House of Representatives concurring, that the City and County of
11 Honolulu is urged to proceed with caution in reviewing any
12 developments proposed to be built on steep terrain and to
13 require all necessary engineering and geotechnical studies to
14 ascertain and ensure public health and safety of the projects;
15 and

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17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
18 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Mayor of the City
19 and County of Honolulu and the Chair of the City Council.

