HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE MAYOR AND THE HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL TO RESTRICT ANNUAL PROPERTY TAX INCREASES TO LESS THAN TEN PER CENT OF THE PRIOR YEAR'S PROPERTY TAX ASSESSMENT.

WHEREAS, the real property tax on the island of Oahu is administered by the City and County of Honolulu; and

WHEREAS, the amount of the real property tax is based on a tax rate set by the City and County of Honolulu multiplied by the assessed value of the property; and

WHEREAS, City and County of Honolulu's real property valuations in the "improved residential" land use class have nearly doubled from \$52,804,379,000, to \$101,177,778,000 between fiscal years 2003-2004 and 2006-2007; and

WHEREAS, City and County of Honolulu real property taxpayers have experienced three consecutive annual increases in county real property tax assessments in as many years; and

WHEREAS, as of January 23, 2007, the county Real Property Assessment Division had received 6,012 taxpayer appeals from real property taxpayers contesting their real property assessments; and

WHEREAS, these real property tax appeals have quadrupled in the last six years; and

WHEREAS, remedies provided by the City and County of Honolulu to offset the increases in the real property tax have thus far been at best inadequate and temporary fixes; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2007, that the Mayor and the Honolulu City Council are respectfully requested to restrict annual property tax

increases to less than ten per cent of the prior year's property tax assessment; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and the Honolulu City Council are respectfully requested to report to the Legislature on the status of this Resolution twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2008; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Mayor of the City and County of Honolulu and the Chairperson of the Honolulu City Council.

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OFFERED BY:

Jon Bonn Kindell

Della Ca Belati

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