
HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL TO REPORT TO THE
LEGISLATURE ON THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE HAWAII
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ACT AND RECOMMEND CHANGES.

1 WHEREAS, Kuilima Resort Company is proceeding with plans to
2 expand the existing Turtle Bay Resort from five hundred hotel
3 rooms to four thousand hotel and condominium units; and
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5 WHEREAS, the environmental impact statement for this
6 project was completed in 1985; and
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8 WHEREAS, the original project plans approved in 1985
9 included three hotels, one thousand four hundred fifty hotel
10 rooms, and two thousand sixty-three condo units; and
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12 WHEREAS, Kuilima Resort Company received tentative block
13 subdivision approval on September 29, 2006. The approval would
14 allow the eight hundred eighty-acre property to be subdivided
15 into five new hotel sites, with a potential for two thousand
16 five hundred hotel rooms, one thousand condominium units, a new
17 interior roadway, a commercial center, four new parks, and
18 several public beach accesses; and
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20 WHEREAS, much has changed in this area of Oahu since 1985.
21 For example, a traffic study completed in 2005 by Kuilima Resort
22 Company indicates a future traffic level of two thousand fifty-
23 four vehicles per hour as compared to the current level of nine
24 hundred vehicles per hour near the resort. Also, the property
25 under development is now home to monk seals, and has also become
26 a nesting area for greater numbers of green sea turtles; and
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28 WHEREAS, due to the changes in this area since the
29 environmental impact statement was completed, there is now much
30 to study and update before this project should be allowed to
31 proceed, and the community consensus calls for renewed
32 environmental review of the proposed expansion's impacts before
33 proceeding further; and
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1 WHEREAS, interested parties have filed suit against the
 2 City and County of Honolulu, Department of Planning and
 3 Permitting, and Kuilima Resort Company to require a supplemental
 4 environmental impact statement before the expansion project is
 5 allowed to proceed; and

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 7 WHEREAS, the Hawaii Revised Statutes does not specifically
 8 address the requirements for obtaining a supplemental
 9 environmental impact statement where the impact of a project has
 10 potentially changed. This differs from the National
 11 Environmental Policy Act and the California Environmental
 12 Quality Act, both of which require supplemental environmental
 13 impact statements; now, therefore,

14
 15 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
 16 Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
 17 Session of 2007, that the Environmental Council is requested to
 18 prepare a report for the Legislature assessing the scope of
 19 chapter 343, Hawaii Revised Statutes, and recommend amendments
 20 to bring the Hawaii Environmental Protection Act in line with
 21 federal and other states' environmental laws, specifically with
 22 regard to the use of supplemental environmental impact
 23 statements; and

24
 25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 26 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Health, the
 27 Director of the Office of Environmental Quality Control, and the
 28 Chairperson of the Environmental Council.

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 31 OFFERED BY:

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[Signature]

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