
HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION DIVISION TO RESEARCH
AND REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE ON HOW BEST TO PROTECT
HAWAII'S HISTORIC BUILDINGS FROM DEMOLITION.

1 WHEREAS, throughout Hawaii, there are an unknown number of
2 historically significant buildings that represent an important
3 cultural resource for both residents and visitors to the State;
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6 WHEREAS, in an increasingly competitive real estate market,
7 many of these historic structures face an uncertain future as
8 properties are sold, long-term leases end, and landowners of
9 expensive real estate focus on the "highest and best use" in
10 order to reap maximum financial benefits; and

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12 WHEREAS, if Hawaii is to retain as many of its historic
13 buildings as possible, additional protection may be necessary in
14 order to provide conditions for demolition and review by state
15 or local preservation commissions; and

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17 WHEREAS, before additional protection in the form of new
18 laws, rules, or other intervention measures is considered,
19 however, important concepts and principles for historic
20 preservation, the effectiveness of current preservation
21 statutes, and strategies for change should be fully researched
22 and developed; now, therefore,

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24 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
25 Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
26 Session of 2007, that the State Historic Preservation Division
27 of the Department of Land and Natural Resources, with the
28 assistance of Historic Hawai'i Foundation, county governments,
29 and other stakeholders is requested to research and report to
30 the Legislature on how best to protect Hawaii's historic
31 buildings from demolition; and

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33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the report is requested to
34 include:
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- (1) The current status of historic buildings in Hawaii, with special emphasis on those that may be in danger of demolition within the next one, three, five years, and beyond;
- (2) Existing practices at the state and county levels related to demolition of historic buildings;
- (3) Model programs from other states and jurisdictions; and
- (4) Recommendations, including any proposed state and county legislation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the State Historic Preservation Division shall report on its recommendations regarding the information requested under this measure to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2008; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Administrator of the State Historic Preservation Division, the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources, the Executive Director of Historic Hawai'i Foundation; and the Mayors of the respective counties.

OFFERED BY:

