

MAR 01 2007

SENATE 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;
4 and
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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 Senate of the Twenty-fourth
25 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2007,
26 that the State Historic Preservation Division of the Department
27 of Land and Natural Resources, with the assistance of Historic
28 Hawai'i Foundation, county governments, and other stakeholders is
29 requested to research and report to the Legislature on how best
30 to protect Hawaii's historic buildings from demolition; and
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32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the report is requested to
33 include:
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- 1 (1) The current status of historic buildings in Hawaii,
2 with special emphasis on those that may be in danger
3 of demolition within the next one, three, five years,
4 and beyond;
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6 (2) Existing practices at the state and county levels
7 related to demolition of historic buildings;
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9 (3) Model programs from other states and jurisdictions;
10 and
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12 (4) Recommendations, including any proposed state and
13 county legislation; and
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15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the State Historic Preservation
16 Division shall report on its recommendations regarding the
17 information requested under this measure to the Legislature no
18 later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular
19 Session of 2008; and
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21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
22 Resolution be transmitted to the Administrator of the State
23 Historic Preservation Division, the Chairperson of the Board of
24 Land and Natural Resources, the Executive Director of Historic
25 Hawai'i Foundation; and the Mayors of the respective counties.
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