
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AGRICULTURAL DIAGNOSTIC SERVICE CENTER, IN CONSULTATION WITH OTHER PUBLIC AND PRIVATE ENTITIES, TO CARRY OUT A SURVEY OF INFORMATION NEEDS OF HAWAII'S AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRY, AND ASSESS WHETHER THE HAWAII AGRICULTURAL INFORMATION CENTER CAN MEET THE INFORMATION NEEDS OF HAWAII'S AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRY.

1 WHEREAS, information regarding crop production in relation
2 to land use is not very accessible; and
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4 WHEREAS, growers must quickly shift products to match
5 marketing opportunities, which requires knowledge of production
6 limitations due to elevation, temperature, pest incidence, and
7 soils; and
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9 WHEREAS, more attention is needed to address the issue of
10 inadvertent contamination of coastal waters as a result of
11 agricultural operations and livestock operations and their
12 manure management, and to address continuing concerns about
13 nitrate contents in the Pearl Harbor aquifer and watershed; and
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15 WHEREAS, nutrients are accumulating in and leading to the
16 degradation of Oahu's coastal and other waters, and improved
17 understanding and management of fertilizers and nitrogen-based
18 amendments such as manures, composts, and the organic
19 fertilizers required by organic farmers, are needed; and
20

21 WHEREAS, the extent of arsenic and other organic
22 contaminants is not well-known; and
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24 WHEREAS, technicians from the Natural Resource Conservation
25 Service (NRCS) are lacking an online tool to make phosphorus and
26 nitrogen runoff risk evaluations; and



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2 WHEREAS, improvements in the Fertility Advice and
3 Consulting System (FACS) of the University of Hawaii
4 Agricultural Diagnostic Service Center (UH-ADSC), including
5 joint NRCS and UH-developed software, are needed to provide
6 clients with alternatives to resolve these issues; and
7

8 WHEREAS, the Hawaii Agriculture Information Center (HAIC),
9 a proposed computer system involving a comprehensive data
10 warehouse and decision-aid online applications, is intended to
11 provide site-specific real time information on personalized web
12 portals to aid decision making with respect to agricultural
13 activities for Hawaii food producers, home owners, agriculture
14 extension agents, researchers and scientists of UH, and
15 technicians of NRCS; and
16

17 WHEREAS, the primary databases in HAIC will include soil,
18 crop, weather, water body, fertilizer, animal feeding,
19 irrigation, and conservation practices, and the integrated
20 decision-aid applications of HAIC will include
21 nitrogen/phosphorous/potassium/calcium management, pesticide
22 control, nutrient runoff risk analysis, economic analysis, crop
23 scheduling, and farmers' daily plans; and
24

25 WHEREAS, the overall goals of HAIC will be to:

- 26
27 (1) Encourage agricultural growth and expansion in Hawaii;
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29 (2) Help to ensure the economic viability of agricultural
30 operations in Hawaii; and
31
32 (3) Improve environmental protections and mitigate
33 environmental damage that occurs as a result of
34 agricultural operations;
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36 now, therefore,
37

38 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
39 Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
40 Session of 2008, the Senate concurring, that the UH-ADSC, in
41 consultation with the UH College of Tropical Agriculture and



H.C.R. NO. 116

1 Human Resources (UH-CTAHR), NRCS, and MobileSoft International
 2 LLP (MobileSoft), is requested to survey the information needs
 3 of Hawaii's agricultural industry and assess whether HAIC can
 4 meet the information needs of Hawaii's agricultural industry;
 5 and
 6

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that UH-ADSC, with input from NRCS,
 8 UH-CTAHR, and MobileSoft, is requested to submit a written
 9 report to the Legislature of its findings and recommendations,
 10 including any appropriate legislation, no later than 20 days
 11 prior to the convening of the 2009 Regular Session; and
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13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 14 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of NRCS,
 15 President of UH, Director of UH-ADSC, Dean of UH-CTAHR,
 16 Executive Director of the Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation, and the
 17 Chief Executive Officer of MobileSoft.
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 19
 20

OFFERED BY:

The image shows five handwritten signatures stacked vertically over a horizontal line. From top to bottom, the signatures are: a large, stylized signature; a signature that appears to be 'Huy'; a signature that appears to be 'Tom'; a signature that appears to be 'Tom Brown'; and a signature that appears to be 'L. J. ...'.

