
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE TO CONSULT WITH OTHER
PUBLIC AND PRIVATE ENTITIES TO DEVELOP A PLAN TO OPTIMIZE
THE USE OF THE KULA VACUUM COOLING PLANT.

1 WHEREAS, Hawaii's farmers face formidable challenges in
2 competing against mainland and foreign farmers for market share;
3 and
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5 WHEREAS, agricultural facilities such as vacuum cooling
6 plants, slaughterhouses, processing facilities, experimental
7 stations, marshalling yards, and agricultural research
8 laboratories are critical to ensuring the viability of Hawaii's
9 agricultural industry; and
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11 WHEREAS, the Kula Vacuum Cooling Plant (Plant) on Maui
12 provides processing, forced air cooling, and storage for
13 agricultural products; and
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15 WHEREAS, the physical infrastructure of the Plant has
16 fallen into a state of disrepair, and the Plant is significantly
17 underutilized; and
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19 WHEREAS, a comprehensive plan is needed to ensure that the
20 Plant is used in the most efficient and effective manner
21 possible; now, therefore,
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23 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
24 Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
25 Session of 2008, the Senate concurring, that the Department of
26 Agriculture (DOA) is requested to consult with the Department of
27 Land and Natural Resources, Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation, Maui
28 County Farm Bureau, and the County of Maui, to develop a plan to
29 optimize the use of the Kula Vacuum Cooling Plant; and
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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the plan address the following
2 items of concern:

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4 (1) The needs of farmers on Maui and how the Plant can
5 best address these needs;

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7 (2) The potential of the Plant to support farmers, assist
8 in the diversification of agriculture, provide for
9 value-added products, and support economies of scale;
10 and

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12 (3) An evaluation of the costs to operate, repair, and
13 upgrade the Plant to meet the needs and achieve the
14 goals specified in paragraph (1) and (2);

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16 and

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18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that DOA is requested to submit the
19 plan to the Legislature no later than 20 days prior to the
20 convening of the Regular Session of 2009; and

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22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
23 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the
24 Board of Agriculture, Director of Land and Natural Resources,
25 Executive Director of the Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation,
26 Director of the Maui County Farm Bureau, Mayor of the County of
27 Maui, and the Chair of the Maui County Council.

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OFFERED BY: JOE

Mel Carroll

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