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# HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO ASSIST THE  
PACIFIC GATEWAY CENTER IN FINDING AN APPROPRIATE LOCATION  
TO LEASE FOR THE PURPOSE OF DEVELOPING THE KE'EHĪ COMMUNITY  
RESOURCE CENTER.

1           WHEREAS, the Pacific Gateway Center was founded in 1973 to  
2 help immigrants, refugees, and low-income residents of Hawaii  
3 gain access to opportunities and services by fulfilling skills  
4 that lead to self-sufficiency while respecting the integrity of  
5 diverse cultural heritages; and

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7           WHEREAS, Oahu Head Start, founded in 1965, strengthens  
8 families through early childhood education, ongoing parent  
9 education, and parent policy council leadership opportunities;  
10 and

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12           WHEREAS, the administrative facilities of both the Pacific  
13 Gateway Center and Oahu Head Start are extremely dilapidated,  
14 deteriorating, overcrowded, substandard, and unsafe; and

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16           WHEREAS, because of the poor work environment, the staff  
17 are restricted and obstructed in their ability to deliver  
18 services and assist target populations that include low-income  
19 families, homeless families, recent immigrants, high school  
20 drop-outs, and abused spouses; and

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22           WHEREAS, both of these non-profit organizations recognize  
23 that their target populations and clients share common  
24 characteristics and will benefit from the convenience of  
25 receiving services from a one-stop Ke'ehi Community Resource  
26 Center; and

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28           WHEREAS, this comprehensive approach not only improves the  
29 delivery of program services to common target populations, but  
30 also enables the two organizations to share common costs and



1 eliminate the unnecessary duplication of administrative  
2 overhead; and

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4 WHEREAS, Oahu Head Start's lease for its current Kapalama  
5 Military Reservation site terminates in two years; and

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7 WHEREAS, the Pacific Gateway Center and Oahu Head Start are  
8 collaborating to develop a Ke'ehi Community Resource Center; and

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10 WHEREAS, the Ke'ehi Community Resource Center is envisioned  
11 as a comprehensive one-stop facility that can accommodate early  
12 childhood education programs, comprehensive child care programs,  
13 workforce development training programs, food service  
14 facilities, administrative office space, and a designated area  
15 for police; and

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17 WHEREAS, these community services are presently scattered  
18 across the City and County of Honolulu; and

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20 WHEREAS, as planned, the Ke'ehi Community Resource Center  
21 would have a campus-like atmosphere by dividing 64,000 square  
22 feet of floor area into five separate structures; and

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24 WHEREAS, each structure would be designed in a contemporary  
25 Hawaiian manner with landscaping to beautify the surrounding  
26 area; and

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28 WHEREAS, the Ke'ehi Community Resource Center project is  
29 estimated to cost \$15,000,000 and will be funded by various  
30 sources; and

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32 WHEREAS, section 171-43.1, Hawaii Revised Statutes, permits  
33 the Board of Land and Natural Resources to lease public lands,  
34 by direct negotiation and for nominal consideration, to a  
35 qualifying eleemosynary organization for the organization's  
36 chartered purposes; and

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38 WHEREAS, the Pacific Gateway Center is a qualifying  
39 eleemosynary organization; and



1 WHEREAS, investing in the proposed Ke'ehi Community Resource  
2 Center will result in long-term returns by reducing the costs  
3 for incarceration and public assistance as family-strengthening  
4 strategies are effectively implemented by the two organizations  
5 and their community partner agencies; and

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7 WHEREAS, approximately 13.2 acres of vacant and unimproved  
8 state-owned public land near Ke'ehi Lagoon, that is leased  
9 month-to-month, has been proposed as the location of the Ke'ehi  
10 Community Resource Center; and

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12 WHEREAS, the 13.2 acres of state-owned public land near  
13 Ke'ehi Lagoon in question is comprised of different parcels that  
14 are identified as TMK 1-1-3:30, 138, 204, 205, 206, 207, 211,  
15 and 212; and

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17 WHEREAS, the proposed Ke'ehi Community Resource Center is a  
18 worthy project for the public welfare, and state-owned public  
19 land appropriate for the project should be leased to the Pacific  
20 Gateway Center for the purpose of developing the Ke'ehi Community  
21 Resource Center; 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 Board of Land  
26 and Natural Resources is requested to assist the Pacific Gateway  
27 Center in finding an appropriate location to lease for the  
28 purpose of developing the Ke'ehi Community Resource Center,  
29 including continuing to consider the location near Ke'ehi Lagoon;  
30 and

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32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature requests that  
33 the lease be at a nominal consideration, by direct negotiation,  
34 and without recourse to public auction pursuant to section  
35 171-43.1, Hawaii Revised Statutes; and

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37 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
38 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chair of the Board  
39 of Land and Natural Resources, Director of the Pacific Gateway  
40 Center, and Director of Oahu Head Start in Hawaii.

