

MAR 13 2008

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO EXPLORE THE
FEASIBILITY OF AND TO DEVELOP A PLAN THEREFOR RELOCATING
THE KAPAA PUBLIC LIBRARY.

1 WHEREAS, the Kapaa Public Library in East Kauai was built
2 in 1959 and is undersized and deteriorating; and

3
4 WHEREAS, according to United States Census records, the
5 service area population (Kawaihau) has increased one hundred and
6 eighty-five per cent between 1960 and 2000; however, there has
7 been no increase in the library's collection space during that
8 same time period; and

9
10 WHEREAS, having recognized that the library is undersized
11 for the area and population it serves, discussions for expansion
12 of the library are ongoing; and

13
14 WHEREAS, the recently completed AM Partners
15 study/assessment of the existing facility revealed several
16 zoning, permit, and variance issues that would impede the
17 library's expansion; and

18
19 WHEREAS, for example, the current zoning restricts the
20 library to covering a maximum of ten per cent of its lot, but
21 the current facility and pavement already cover thirty-seven per
22 cent of the lot; hence, expansion is not a viable option at this
23 current site; and

24
25 WHEREAS, the existing library is located adjacent to Kapaa
26 County Beach Park and abuts a new, popular bike/walking path
27 also owned by the County of Kauai; and

28
29 WHEREAS, at least one County Councilmember has indicated an
30 interest in the library property for the purpose of expanding
31 Kapaa County Beach Park and to capitalize on the popularity of
32 the bike/walking path; and



1
2 WHEREAS, in addition, the proximity of the bike/walking
3 path has added to parking issues as some people are using the
4 library parking lot to access the path; and
5

6 WHEREAS, the backdoor of the library is less than fifty
7 yards away from the shoreline and the salt air causes damage to
8 the air conditioning and electrical systems, and the area would
9 be at risk in the event of a tsunami; and
10

11 WHEREAS, the library is located on Kuhio Highway, the
12 island's main thoroughfare, and traffic congestion deters local
13 residents from visiting the library; and
14

15 WHEREAS, the relocation of the library to an area adjacent
16 to the main Kapaa County Park off of Olohena Road would support
17 a dramatic expansion and improvement of the park, enhance the
18 community activities now occurring at this inland location,
19 increase accessibility to the library, and facilitate needed
20 updating of the library facilities; now, therefore,
21

22 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fourth
23 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2008, the
24 House of Representatives concurring, that the Department of
25 Education work with the County of Kauai, Kapaa community
26 members, and appropriate state agencies to explore the
27 feasibility of relocating the Kapaa Public Library to an inland
28 location near or adjacent to the Kapaa County Park's sports
29 field and the Army National Guard Facilities, and to develop a
30 plan therefor; and
31

32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education is
33 requested to consider incorporating the following into the plan
34 for the new library:
35

- 36 (1) An expanded technology center and community center
37 facilities for meetings and community gatherings;
38
39 (2) The swapping of county and state lands or some other
40 agreement that provides the County of Kauai the right
41 to use the land under the existing Kapaa Public
42 Library; and
43



1 (3) The design and use of the new library as a potential
2 disaster shelter for use during times of emergency;
3 and
4

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education is
6 requested to report its findings and recommendations to the
7 Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
8 the Regular Session of 2009; and
9

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
11 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the
12 Board of Education, the Superintendent of Education, the Mayor
13 of Kauai, members of the Kauai County Council, the State
14 Librarian, and the Kapaa Public Library Branch Manager.
15
16
17

OFFERED BY:

Ray L. Aca

Cherene A. Fickler

Waman Sakonji

James Meredith, K.

Will Eyo

Enzannichun Aalland

