
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE STATE BUILDING CODE COUNCIL TO ADOPT STANDARDS
AND CRITERIA TO ALLOW THE USE OF BAMBOO AS AN ACCEPTED
CONSTRUCTION MATERIAL UNDER THE STATE BUILDING CODE.

1 WHEREAS, bamboo is a renewable, sustainable, and popular
2 material for fencing, flooring, and furniture, but can also be
3 used as timber for construction of buildings; and
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5 WHEREAS, treated bamboo forms a very hard wood that is
6 lightweight, resilient, long-lasting, and exceptionally durable
7 and can be used in tropical climates for construction of
8 housing, construction scaffolding, and as a substitute for steel
9 reinforcing rods in concrete construction; and
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11 WHEREAS, at least thirty-three houses in Maui, all with
12 conditional permits from the county, have been recently
13 constructed from bamboo plywood and beams and were designed to
14 exceed all required building code standards for Hawaii; and
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16 WHEREAS, the commercial cultivation of bamboo also happens
17 to be an environmentally sound replacement for the declining
18 sugar and pineapple industries in helping preserve Hawaii's
19 agricultural heritage, and bamboo research centers and
20 plantations are being established in Hawaii, especially on Oahu,
21 Kauai, and the Big Island; and
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23 WHEREAS, the State Building Code Council has the duty to
24 establish a comprehensive state building code, and part of that
25 duty involves making necessary or desirable state amendments to
26 the model codes; now, therefore,
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28 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
29 Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
30 of 2009, the Senate concurring, that the State Building Code
31 Council is requested to adopt standards and criteria to allow



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1 the use of bamboo as an accepted construction material under the
2 State Building Code; and

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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the State Building Code Council
5 is requested to submit a report of its findings and
6 recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the
7 Legislature not later than twenty days prior to the convening of
8 the Regular Session of 2010; and

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10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
11 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the
12 State Building Code Council and the Comptroller.

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OFFERED BY: Mel Carole

Karen Curran

Cindy Evans

MAR 17 2009

