
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR TO DIRECT THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO CONVENE A SCENIC BYWAYS WORKING GROUP TO SELECT POSSIBLE SITES STATEWIDE, INCLUDING THE PI`ILANI TRAIL ON MAUI, FOR PROPOSED FEDERAL DESIGNATION AS SCENIC BYWAYS.

1 WHEREAS, scenic byways are recognized as roads that
2 incorporate and reflect noteworthy natural, historic, and
3 cultural features of an area; and
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5 WHEREAS, these scenic byways afford visitors a pleasurable
6 experience as they travel the byways, while the economies of the
7 local communities within which these byways are situated benefit
8 reciprocally from visitor activity; and
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10 WHEREAS, Congress established the National Scenic Byways
11 Program (Byways Program) in 1991 under the Intermodal Surface
12 Transportation Efficiency Act and the Transportation Equity Act
13 for the 21st Century; and
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15 WHEREAS, the Byways Program is a voluntary program designed
16 to help states protect and promote their scenic roads by which
17 states apply for funding from the Federal Highway Administration
18 (FHA) of the United States Department of Transportation and
19 submit nominations of certain roads for designation as scenic
20 byways by the FHA; and
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22 WHEREAS, for example, the state Department of
23 Transportation (DOT) initiated the North Kona Heritage Corridor
24 Project on the Big Island with community input as a first step
25 to establishing a state scenic byway designation for that area;
26 and
27

28 WHEREAS, in the early years of the 16th century, Pi`ilani
29 Makua, the king of Maui, and his son, Kiha-a-Pi`ilani,
30 constructed within a span of about five years a pathway uniting
31 west and east Maui known as Alanui-Kike`eke`e-a-Maui, or the



1 winding pathway of Maui, which proceeded clockwise around the
2 northern coast of west Maui across the isthmus to Haleakala
3 Mountain; and
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5 WHEREAS, an 18-mile stretch of the pathway from Honokowai
6 to Kahakuloa, known as Na Hono-a-Pi`ilani, or the Pi`ilani
7 Trail, connects the six sacred bays of Pi`ilani, each with
8 distinct Hawaiian names that reflect their uniqueness; and
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10 WHEREAS, the six sacred bays of Pi`ilani consist of:
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- 12 (1) Honokowai bay, or the "watering bay," which is a long,
13 slight curve of calcareous beach sandstone, hard as
14 rock, that extends into the sea about three feet deep;
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- 16 (2) Honokeana bay, or the "cave bay," which is a deep,
17 boxy recess where the sea has eroded a bed of red ash,
18 coloring the water a murky red;
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- 20 (3) Honokahua bay, or the "sites bay," which is a
21 beautiful, peaceful, open, sandy beach now known as
22 Kapalua that is a closed semicircular shape with long
23 waves washing far up on the shore, ringed with palm
24 trees and jutting black lava rock;
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- 26 (4) Honolua bay, or "two harbors bay," which lies along
27 the coast where winds are brisk and ironwood trees
28 form windbreaks that bring fragrance to the air as
29 their soft needles cushion the ground;
30
- 31 (5) Honokohau bay, or "bay drawing dew bay," which lies at
32 the mouth of Honokohau Stream, Maui's longest stream,
33 where the surface of the land slopes into the sea to
34 meet Molokai. The nearly inaccessible waterfall at
35 the head of Honokohau Stream drops 1,690 feet, making
36 it the sixth tallest waterfall in the world and the
37 second tallest in the nation after Yosemite in
38 California; and
39
- 40 (6) Hononana bay, or "animated bay," which lies at the
41 mouth of Hononana gulch where nearby rests a boulder
42 alongside the road called Pohakukani, the "bell
43 stone," which when struck with a rock, sounds like the
44 ringing of a massive bell, but with a metallic timbre;



1 and

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3 WHEREAS, the community is interested in designating the 18-
4 mile Pi`ilani Trail as a scenic byway, to preserve the area and
5 to provide access for the public; and

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7 WHEREAS, funding assistance is required to continually
8 maintain scenic byways and to preserve their accessibility to
9 the public; and

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11 WHEREAS, it is unrealistic during the current local,
12 national, and global economic downturn to draw on state general
13 funds to support worthwhile scenic byways projects; however, the
14 FHA administers a fund to provide assistance to states whose
15 projects qualify according to federal guidelines; now,
16 therefore,

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18 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
19 Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
20 of 2009, the Senate concurring, that the Office of the Governor
21 is requested to direct DOT to convene a Scenic Byways Working
22 Group to select possible sites statewide, including the Pi`ilani
23 Trail on Maui, for proposed federal designation as scenic byways
24 and to develop the federally required corridor management
25 plan, as defined in the Byways Program Interim Policy; and

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27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Office of the Governor is
28 requested to direct DOT to include in the Scenic Byways Working
29 Group representatives from DOT, the Department of Land and
30 Natural Resources, the Department of Business, Economic
31 Development, and Tourism, relevant county agencies, and
32 community groups residing in areas where proposed scenic byways
33 are located; and

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35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Office of the Governor is
36 requested to direct DOT to consult with and invite
37 representatives from the FHA and any other relevant federal
38 agency to participate in the deliberations of the Scenic Byways
39 Working Group; and

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41 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Office of the Governor is
42 requested to direct DOT to act upon the findings and
43 recommendations of the Scenic Byways Working Group by submitting
44 to the FHA:



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- 2 (1) Nominations of roads selected by the Working Group for
- 3 designation as scenic byways; and
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- 5 (2) Applications for federal funding to support the
- 6 promotion, maintenance, and repair of these roads;
- 7

8 and

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10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Office of the Governor is

11 requested to direct DOT to report to the Legislature no later

12 than 20 days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of

13 2010, on the progress of the Scenic Byways Working Group and the

14 status of any application to the FHA for funding and to

15 designate selected roads of the state as scenic byways; and

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17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this

18 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Directors

19 of Transportation and Business, Economic Development, and

20 Tourism, Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources,

21 mayor and chairperson of the council of each county,

22 Administrator of the Federal Highway Administration, and members

23 of Hawaii's congressional delegation.

