
HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO
REMOVE THE KA'OHE HOMESTEADS FROM THE GEOTHERMAL RESOURCES
SUBZONE DESIGNATION.

1 WHEREAS, in the 1980s, the Department of Land and Natural
2 Resources designated certain areas on the island of Hawaii as
3 geothermal resource zones; and
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5 WHEREAS, Wao Kele O Puna, or the Puna rainforest, was
6 placed in one of those zones for exploration, as well as an
7 abutting area composed of large agricultural lots, the Ka'ohe
8 homesteads; and
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10 WHEREAS, although sharing a common boundary with Wao Kele O
11 Puna, prior to placement in the subzone the property owners and
12 residents of Ka'ohe homesteads were never approached for their
13 input, only learning of the new designation after the fact; and
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15 WHEREAS, parcels in Kapoho were removed from the geothermal
16 resource zone at the request of the property owners; and
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18 WHEREAS, the Office of Hawaiian Affairs recently purchased
19 Wao Kele O Puna and is seeking to remove the property's
20 geothermal resource zone designation; and
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22 WHEREAS, with the removal of Wao Kele O Puna from the
23 geothermal resource zone designation to protect the rainforest
24 from development, the Department should likewise remove the
25 designation for the Ka'ohe homesteads due to the lack of any
26 potential for geothermal development and to honor the wishes of
27 the property owners and residents of the area; now, therefore,
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29 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
30 Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
31 of 2009, that the Department of Land and Natural Resources is
32 requested to remove Ka'ohe homesteads' geothermal resource zone



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1 designation, either in conjunction with the designation removal
2 for Wao Kele O Puna or as soon as practicable; and
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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
5 Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the Board of
6 Land and Natural Resources, the Chairperson of the Board of
7 Trustees of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, and the President of
8 the Ka'ohē Homesteads Community and Farm Watch.
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OFFERED BY:



MAR 16 2009

