
HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE COLLEGE OF TROPICAL AGRICULTURE AND HUMAN RESOURCES AT THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII TO STUDY THE FEASIBILITY OF PLANTING NON-GENETICALLY MODIFIED KALO IN THE REFLECTING POOL THAT SURROUNDS THE STATE CAPITOL BUILDING.

1 WHEREAS, *kalo* (*colocasia esculenta*), or in English, taro,
2 is a central part of the Hawaiian culture, as it is considered
3 sacred and a part of the Hawaiian genealogy; and

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5 WHEREAS, *kalo* is also an important source of food in
6 Hawaiian culture; and

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8 WHEREAS, the grounds of the State Capitol are a gathering
9 place for visitors, as well as residents from across the state;
10 and

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12 WHEREAS, the architectural design of the State Capitol
13 building symbolizes unique aspects of this State: the eight
14 columns along the front and back of the building represent the
15 State's major islands, the sloping walls of the House and Senate
16 chambers represent the volcanoes, and the columns rising out of
17 the reflecting pools represent palm trees; and

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19 WHEREAS, in 2007, *kalo* was designated by law as the
20 official plant of the State; and

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22 WHEREAS, despite its cultural importance and the abundance
23 of other symbolic representations at the State Capitol building,
24 *kalo* is not present; now, therefore,

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26 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
27 Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
28 of 2009, that the University of Hawaii College of Tropical
29 Agriculture and Human Resources, in consultation with the Office
30 of Hawaiian Affairs, is requested to study the feasibility of
31 planting non-genetically modified taro in the reflecting pools
32 that surround the State Capitol building; and



1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the College of Tropical
2 Agriculture and Human Resources at the University of Hawaii is
3 requested to submit a report of its findings and recommendations
4 to the Legislature no later than 20 days prior to the convening
5 of the Regular Session of 2010; and

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7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
8 Resolution be transmitted to Chairperson of the Board of Regents
9 and the President of the University of Hawaii, Dean of the
10 College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources at the
11 University of Hawaii, and the Chairperson of the Board of
12 Trustees of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs.

