HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO REVIEW ALL BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, COUNCILS, COMMITTEES, WORKING GROUPS, AND TASK FORCES TO DETERMINE WHICH OF THESE CAN BE ELIMINATED.

WHEREAS, numerous boards, commissions, councils, committees, working groups, and task forces under the jurisdiction of the various state departments are mandated by state statutes, federal regulations, or the various departments, all for a specific purpose; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) is responsible for managing 158 boards, commissions, councils, committees, working groups and task forces, of which 65 are mandated by statute, 14 are mandated by federal regulations, and 79 are mandated by DLNR; and

WHEREAS, the staff of the various divisions of DLNR spends countless hours preparing for meetings and attending meetings, including flying to the neighbor islands; and

WHEREAS, the staff of the various divisions responsible for one-third of DLNR's boards, commissions, councils, committees, working groups, and task forces with the lowest priorities expends approximately 2,800 man-hours annually preparing for meetings, attending meetings, and otherwise providing assistance to these groups; and

WHEREAS, some of the boards, commissions, councils, committees, working groups, and task forces may have completed the many tasks they were required to accomplish, while others may not be functioning due to a lack of attendance by their members; and

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WHEREAS, in this time of economic uncertainty DLNR is eliminating programs and positions to cut costs; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2009, that DLNR is requested to review the functionality and effectiveness of all boards, commissions, councils, committees, working groups and task forces under its purview; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that DLNR is requested to review the possible elimination of boards, commissions, councils, committees, working groups, and task forces that have completed their tasks or become ineffective or dysfunctional; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that DLNR shall submit a report to the Legislature no later than 20 days before the commencement of the Regular Session of 2010 addressing the effectiveness of all 158 boards, commissions, councils, committees, working groups, and task forces, and making recommendations on which boards, commissions, councils, committees, working groups, and task forces are to be eliminated: and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Governor and Chairperson of DLNR.

OFFERED BY:

MAR 1 8 2009