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HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DIVISION OF CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT TO APPLY FOR ACCREDITATION WITH THE COMMISSION ON ACCREDITATION FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES, INC.

WHEREAS, the Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement of the Department of Land and Natural Resources underwent a financial and management audit in 2005; and

WHEREAS, the Management Audit of the Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement, Report No. 06-01, January 2006, affirmed the importance of having a Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement to protect Hawaii's precious natural and cultural resources and identified several areas needing restructure and reorganization to improve the effectiveness of those efforts; and

WHEREAS, in response to the January 2006 report the Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement underwent extensive strategic planning and as a Division determined that their main priority is to restructure their internal organization to increase professionalism, accountability, transparency, responsibility, effectiveness, and efficiency; and

WHEREAS, in order to achieve the level of effectiveness, accountability, transparency, and other objectives sought, the Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement identified law enforcement recognition or accreditation as the appropriate solution; and

WHEREAS, the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. specializes in accrediting law enforcement agencies; and

WHEREAS, the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. provides services to strengthen and improve staffing, oversee and train officers, establish law enforcement standards, assist in strategizing to protect natural and cultural resources, improve public accountability, and evaluate risk management systems; and

WHEREAS, the Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement's participation in law enforcement accreditation may provide the needed internal organization to provide improved public service and to accomplish the mission and objectives in the Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement's strategic plan; 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 the Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement is requested to apply for accreditation with the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc.; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement is requested to submit an application no later than January 31, 2010 for accreditation with the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc.; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement is requested to report its findings and recommendations to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2010; and

 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources and the Administrator of the Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement.

OFFERED BY:

MAR - 5 2009