
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING A STUDY OF STATE LAND ASSETS AND NATURAL RESOURCES
AND A DETERMINATION OF THEIR UTILIZATION AND POTENTIAL FOR
REVENUE GENERATION.

1 WHEREAS, House Concurrent Resolution No. 76, H.D. 1,
2 S.D. 1, 2009, established a Task Force on Reinventing Government
3 (Task Force) to examine the existing operations and
4 organizations of Hawaii's state government and recommend ways to
5 make Hawaii's government more efficient; and
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7 WHEREAS, the Task Force was formed in October 2009 and
8 gathered together a varied group of government leaders, state
9 agency and department heads, community leaders, nonprofit
10 organization leaders, and business executives from around the
11 State; and
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13 WHEREAS, in light of the financial strain that Hawaii faces
14 due to the world economic downturn and resulting decline in tax
15 revenue, the group was tasked with examining opportunities to
16 reevaluate and restructure state government operations and
17 organizations to do more with fewer resources in order to
18 weather current economic crises and prepare for future
19 challenges; and
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21 WHEREAS, at its final meeting on January 4, 2010, the Task
22 Force adopted a number of recommendations, including
23 recommendations to improve government efficiency in relation to
24 land and natural resources; and
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26 WHEREAS, in its report issued January 2010, the Task Force
27 found that Hawaii's "green and blue" infrastructure - our land,
28 water, natural, and cultural resources - provide the backbone of
29 our economic base; for example, ocean recreation and tourism
30 provide an estimated \$1,000,000,000 per year in business and
31 tourism is based in large part on our natural beauty and public



1 lands; and commercial fisheries create over \$300,000,000 per
2 year in business; and

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4 WHEREAS, in addition, our drinking water is completely
5 reliant upon healthy and open watersheds, and many of Hawaii's
6 residents also rely on these resources for sustenance and
7 constitutionally protected cultural practices; and

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9 WHEREAS, the Task Force found that government factors the
10 actual costs of maintaining "hard" infrastructure into operating
11 and capital improvement budgets for highways, harbors, and
12 schools, and developments that impact roads and schools are
13 provided formulas for measuring those impacts and are required
14 to factor the mitigation of those impacts into the cost of
15 development; and

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17 WHEREAS, the real cost of maintaining Hawaii's natural
18 resources, however, is not factored into governmental operating
19 or capital budgets or fully considered when reviewing new
20 development, and as a result, Hawaii, while still beautiful, has
21 undergone a slow, steady, and unrelenting degrading of our green
22 and blue infrastructure; and

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24 WHEREAS, among its recommendations, the Task Force
25 addressed ways to improve management efficiency in maintaining,
26 managing, and sustaining Hawaii's green and blue infrastructure
27 without increasing the burden upon taxpayers; 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 2010, the Senate concurring, that the Department of Land and
32 Natural Resources is requested to study state land assets and
33 natural resources and determine their utilization and potential
34 for revenue generation; and

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36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study include, but not be
37 limited to:

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39 (1) An identification and inventory of state land assets
40 and other natural resources;
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42 (2) Projections of the real cost of maintaining these
43 state assets and natural resources;
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(3) Recommendations regarding allocations of operating and capital funds to care for these resources to sustain them and our way of life, including:

(A) Utilizing government assets to support government land and natural resources; and

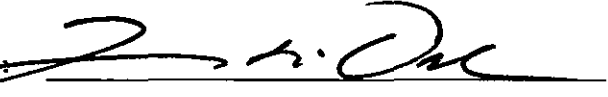
(B) Requiring private development or businesses that obtain financial benefit from utilizing public natural or cultural resources to dedicate financial or other support for a portion of the maintenance costs required to sustain those resources; e.g., requiring a portion of revenue from renewable energy leases or sales of water to be dedicated to sustaining the renewable resource through contributing membership of a watershed partnership, in-kind contributions, or dedication of a percentage of revenue; and

(4) Additional information, as appropriate; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Land and Natural Resources is requested to consult with government leaders, state and county agency and department heads, community leaders, nonprofit organization leaders, and business executives, as appropriate; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Land and Natural Resources is requested to report on the study and any recommendations, including recommendations for legislation, no later than twenty days prior to the Regular Session of 2011; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chair of the Board of Land and Natural Resources and the Director of Finance.

OFFERED BY: 

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