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# HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING STATE DEPARTMENTS TO USE TRADITIONAL HAWAIIAN NAMES  
WHEN IDENTIFYING FISHPONDS.

1           WHEREAS, Native Hawaiians constructed nearly 500 fishponds  
2 in Hawai'i beginning in the 13<sup>th</sup> century, including the 523-acre  
3 Keahupua o Maunalua Pond, the largest fishpond in Polynesia; and  
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5           WHEREAS, Hawai'i's fishponds represent one of the most  
6 advanced fish husbandry techniques among the original peoples of  
7 the Pacific; and  
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9           WHEREAS, fishponds reinforced traditional cultural values  
10 of community and solidarity since the construction of each was a  
11 monumental task requiring the cooperation of every family in the  
12 *ahupua'a*; and  
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14           WHEREAS, the unique fishponds of Hawai'i have sustained  
15 Native Hawaiians since ancient times; and  
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17           WHEREAS, fishponds are often fed by springs and provide a  
18 favorable environment for fish, limu, and a wide variety of  
19 other marine, terrestrial, and plant species; and  
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21           WHEREAS, the fishponds provided a source of fish when it  
22 was not available from the ocean due to weather and surf, or was  
23 *kapu* during spawning season; and  
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25           WHEREAS, this life-giving function of fishponds has been  
26 obscured in recent years by the use of such terms as "lagoon,"  
27 "lake," "basin," "ditch," and "loch;" and  
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29           WHEREAS, sole reliance on Tax Map Key numbers and terms  
30 such as "remnant" and "vacant" lands has led to the exclusion of  
31 traditional Hawaiian names; and



# H.C.R. NO. 109

1           WHEREAS, fishponds are quickly disappearing due to  
2 continuing urban development; and

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4           WHEREAS, restoring fishponds will help address the shortage  
5 of healthy local food products and promote sustainability; now,  
6 therefore,

7  
8           BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
9 Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
10 of 2010, the Senate concurring, that state departments are  
11 requested to use traditional Hawaiian names when identifying  
12 fishponds; and

13  
14           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
15 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, and the  
16 Director or Chairperson of each state department and the Board  
17 of Land and Natural Resources.

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OFFERED BY: *Hyla B. Berg*

FEB 19 2010

