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# HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO COMPLETE  
A COMPREHENSIVE WATER CONSERVATION PLAN.

1           WHEREAS, water constitutes Hawai'i's most precious natural,  
2 economic, and cultural resource; and

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4           WHEREAS, water has sustained countless generations of  
5 people in Hawai'i, beginning with the first settlers to the  
6 islands--the Native Hawaiians--who developed efficient and  
7 sustainable ways of harnessing the resource for their  
8 agricultural and aquacultural systems; and

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10           WHEREAS, the Hawai'i Constitution provides that, along with  
11 other natural resources, water is a public trust resource to be  
12 managed and regulated for the benefit of the people, and  
13 mandates the setting of overall water conservation policies by a  
14 water resources agency; and

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16           WHEREAS, in 1987, the Fourteenth Legislature enacted the  
17 State Water Code, codified in Chapter 174C, Hawaii Revised  
18 Statutes, to provide guidance and direction for the managing and  
19 safeguarding of Hawaii's water resources; and

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21           WHEREAS, in 2005, the Department of Land and Natural  
22 Resources (DLNR), through the Commission on Water Resource  
23 Management (CWRM), drafted the Prototype Water Conservation Plan  
24 to develop policies and procedures that could be applied to  
25 typical government facilities statewide addressing both potable  
26 and non-potable water demands, identifying practical water  
27 conservation measures, and developing implementation schedules  
28 and budgets; and



1           WHEREAS, the Prototype Water Conservation Plan called for  
2 the preparation of a larger, more comprehensive State agency  
3 water conservation plan; however, this was never finalized and  
4 to this day remains unimplemented; and  
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6           WHEREAS, population increase and urban development in  
7 Hawai'i have resulted in a serious imbalance between water use  
8 and available water resources; and  
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10           WHEREAS, the total fresh water available for urban use is  
11 beginning to reach the limit before desalination and other  
12 costly measures become necessary; and  
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14           WHEREAS, every day hundreds of gallons of potable water are  
15 wasted because of inefficient water management systems, leaky  
16 faucets, unrepaired underground leaks, and use of irrigation  
17 systems that water more frequently and longer than soils are  
18 able to accept or plants need, causing runoff and ponding, and  
19 constantly swamping certain areas; and  
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21           WHEREAS, broken sprinkler heads can often be seen in public  
22 places, along highways and in parks, and on private property,  
23 visibly wasting water; and  
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25           WHEREAS, improvements to indoor plumbing fixtures, such as  
26 shower heads and faucet aerators, have increased water savings,  
27 yet readily available improvements to outdoor landscaping water  
28 fixtures have not been widely adopted; and  
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30           WHEREAS, because most potable water must be electrically  
31 pumped to upland reservoirs to provide users with steady water  
32 pressure, infrastructure, maintenance, and repair costs cause an  
33 increase in the cost of providing clean water; and  
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35           WHEREAS, water conservation is a low-cost way to expand  
36 available water resources and engage the public in the  
37 collective effort to safeguard Hawai'i's water resources; and  
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39           WHEREAS, the economy has forced state offices to cut back  
40 staff and reduced their ability to accomplish longstanding, but  
41 incomplete, goals relating to water conservation; and



1 WHEREAS, landscaping industry groups, conservation groups,  
2 and major water users are willing and able to assist in the  
3 completion of the long-awaited statewide plan for water  
4 conservation, and to facilitate its implementation; and  
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6 WHEREAS, to ensure there is enough water now and in the  
7 future for all of Hawai'i's people, immediate steps must be taken  
8 to make the most efficient use of the state's existing water  
9 supplies; now, therefore,  
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11 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
12 Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawai'i, Regular Session  
13 of 2010, the Senate concurring, that the Department of Land and  
14 Natural Resources, in partnership with the Commission on Water  
15 Resource Management, is urged to immediately complete the  
16 drafting of a comprehensive statewide plan for water  
17 conservation to establish a set of clear and comprehensive  
18 policies and procedures to protect and conserve Hawai'i's  
19 valuable water resources, particularly addressing landscaping;  
20 and  
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22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Land and  
23 Natural Resources and the Commission on Water Resource  
24 Management are requested to include the landscaping industry and  
25 conservation groups in the development of a sound and achievable  
26 statewide plan for water conservation; and  
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28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Land and  
29 Natural Resources is requested to submit a report of its  
30 progress to the Legislature no later than 20 days prior to the  
31 convening of the Regular Session of 2011; and  
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33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this  
34 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the  
35 Board of Land and Natural Resources.  
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OFFERED BY:

*Jyla B. Berg*  
*Della A. Belotti*  
*[Signature]*

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