

JAN 21 2010

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A PUBLIC SERVICE PROGRAM FOR
VOLUNTEERS TO PICK UP LITTER FROM HAWAII'S BEACHES.

1 WHEREAS, Hawaii's beaches are famous for their crested
2 turquoise waves crashing onto pristine, golden shores; and
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4 WHEREAS, however, Hawaii is situated in the center of the
5 north Pacific sub-tropical gyre, which is several ocean currents
6 that rotate around the islands; and
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8 WHEREAS, this natural phenomenon results in Hawaii being a
9 natural magnet for thousands of tons of non-biodegradable
10 rubbish from all over the ocean; and
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12 WHEREAS, synthetic rubbish from both sides of the Pacific,
13 southeast Asia and South America, is washed up on Hawaii's
14 beaches daily; and
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16 WHEREAS, clearing marine debris from the ocean and beaches
17 is important not just for restoring the natural beauty of
18 beaches, but also for saving marine life; and
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20 WHEREAS, birds and animals mistake rubbish such as plastic
21 bags, cigarette lighters, and other brightly colored plastic as
22 food and may suffer from internal injury, intestinal blockage,
23 and even starvation; and
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25 WHEREAS, dolphins, whales, sea turtles, sharks, and seals
26 get caught in fishing nets, lines, and other debris such as six-
27 pack holders; and
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29 WHEREAS, marine debris comes from land-based sources and
30 water-based sources, and can last for years in the ocean before
31 disintegrating; and
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1 WHEREAS, local efforts to clean up Hawaii's beaches include
2 the Beach Environmental Awareness Campaign Hawaii, which
3 distributes pocket ashtrays to avoid cigarette butts on beaches
4 and teams with Aveda Lifestyle Salon & Spa at the Ala Moana
5 Center to recycle bottle caps; and

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7 WHEREAS, these efforts demonstrate the community's strong
8 desire to clean up Hawaii's beaches, preserve their natural
9 beauty, and protect the ocean and land environment for future
10 generations; and

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12 WHEREAS, statewide coordination of these efforts through a
13 centralized program can provide the necessary support for
14 community groups to clean every beach in Hawaii and control the
15 litter and marine debris problem; now, therefore,

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17 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fifth
18 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2010, the
19 House of Representatives concurring, that the Department of Land
20 and Natural Resources is requested to establish a public service
21 program for volunteers to pick up litter on Hawaii's beaches;
22 and

23
24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Land and
25 Natural Resources is requested to:

- 26
27 (1) Establish Malama o ke Kahakai, a public service
28 program for volunteers to care for Hawaii's beaches by
29 picking up litter and debris;
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31 (2) Coordinate with community groups, churches, or
32 businesses to adopt a beach by agreeing to pick up
33 litter and debris in that area at least four times per
34 year;
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36 (3) Provide trash bags and safety information to
37 volunteers;
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39 (4) Remove filled trash bags from the beaches and remove
40 heavy or hazardous items; and
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42 (5) Erect a sign to recognize volunteer groups' cleaning
43 efforts; and
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S.C.R. NO. 13

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Land and
2 Natural Resources is requested to provide a report on the
3 progress of Malama o ke Kahakai to the Legislature no later than
4 twenty days prior to the convening of the 2011 Regular Session;
5 and

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7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this
8 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to Chairperson of the
9 Department of Land and Natural Resources.

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OFFERED BY:

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