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# SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO APPROVE AND THE DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES TO PLAN AND IMPLEMENT THE LEGISLATURE'S PROPOSAL TO REPLACE THE REFLECTING PONDS SURROUNDING THE STATE CAPITOL WITH A GARDEN OF NATIVE PLANTS.

1           WHEREAS, the reflecting ponds surrounding the State Capitol  
2 have leaked stagnant water into the chamber level of the State  
3 Capitol in the past, including in 2008, and will probably do so  
4 again; and

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6           WHEREAS, the waterproof membrane underneath the reflecting  
7 ponds needs replacing; and

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9           WHEREAS, the reflecting ponds were built without adequate  
10 filtration, thus preventing the stocking of fish to control  
11 algae growth; and

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13           WHEREAS, the growth of algae in the reflecting ponds has  
14 become an unsightly problem; and

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16           WHEREAS, with their bumpy bottom, the reflecting ponds are  
17 difficult to clean properly; and

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19           WHEREAS, it takes three janitors working ten half-days per  
20 month using enzymes and pumps to control algae growth in the  
21 reflecting ponds; and

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23           WHEREAS, in a time of the State's budget crisis, it costs  
24 more than \$50,000 per year, not including electricity costs, to  
25 maintain the reflecting ponds; and

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27           WHEREAS, the reflecting ponds provide little educational  
28 value; and



1 WHEREAS, a garden of native plants, along with explanatory  
2 signs, would provide visitors to the State Capitol with a much  
3 better educational experience; and

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5 WHEREAS, the reflecting ponds are considered an  
6 architectural feature of the State Capitol; and

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8 WHEREAS, the State Capitol is listed on the Hawaii and  
9 National Registers of Historic Places; and

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11 WHEREAS, any proposal to alter the architectural features  
12 of a property listed on the Hawaii or National Register of  
13 Historic Places must be submitted to the Historic Preservation  
14 Division of the Department of Land and Natural Resources for  
15 review; and

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17 WHEREAS, the State Capitol is located in the Hawaii Capital  
18 Special Design District and the City and County of Honolulu's  
19 Department of Planning and Permitting must approve of any  
20 changes; and

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22 WHEREAS, section 6E-8, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is the  
23 principal statutory provision addressing the review of the  
24 effects of proposed state projects for properties designated as  
25 historic; and

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27 WHEREAS, the State Capitol falls under the jurisdiction of  
28 the Department of Accounting and General Services; and

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30 WHEREAS, any proposal to replace the reflecting ponds could  
31 be accomplished under existing statutes and regulations,  
32 according to the Comptroller of the Department of Accounting and  
33 General Services; now, therefore,

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35 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fifth  
36 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2010, the  
37 House of Representatives concurring, that the Historic  
38 Preservation Division of the Department of Land and Natural  
39 Resources is requested to treat this measure as the  
40 Legislature's proposal to replace the reflecting ponds  
41 surrounding the State Capitol with a garden of native plants  
42 with explanatory signs; and  
43



1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Historic Preservation  
2 Division of the Department of Land and Natural Resources is also  
3 requested to approve of this proposal to replace the reflecting  
4 ponds surrounding the State Capitol with a garden of native  
5 plants with explanatory signs; and  
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7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Accounting  
8 and General Services is requested to develop a plan to implement  
9 this proposal; and  
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11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Historic Preservation  
12 Division of the Department of Land and Natural Resources is also  
13 requested to cooperate with the Department of Accounting and  
14 General Services in developing a plan to implement this  
15 proposal; and  
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17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Accounting  
18 and General Services and the Historic Preservation Division of  
19 the Department of Land and Natural Resources are requested to  
20 seek any required approvals from the City and County of  
21 Honolulu's Department of Planning and Permitting, the National  
22 Register of Historic Places, and any other appropriate agency;  
23 and  
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25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Accounting  
26 and General Services is requested to implement the plan once the  
27 required approvals are obtained; and  
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29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Accounting  
30 and General Services and the Historic Preservation Division of  
31 the Department of Land and Natural Resources report to the  
32 Legislature on their progress no later than twenty days prior to  
33 the convening of each regular session until the project is  
34 completed; and  
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36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
37 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to that certified copies of  
38 this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of  
39 the Board of Land and Natural Resources; the Administrator of  
40 the State Historic Preservation Division; the Comptroller; the  
41 Director of the City and County of Honolulu's Department of  
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# S.C.R. NO. 160

1 Planning and Permitting; the program manager of the National  
 2 Register of Historic Places; and the United States Secretary of  
 3 the Interior.

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OFFERED BY:

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