

---

---

# HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT HILO TO SEEK GRANT MONEYS  
AND ADDITIONAL RESOURCES FOR STUDYING THE FEASIBILITY OF  
INCORPORATING NATIVE HAWAIIAN PLANT SPECIES IN CAPITAL  
IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS.

1           WHEREAS, a 2003 study by the University of Hawaii College  
2 of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources reported that  
3 although native Hawaiian plants can be successfully grown and  
4 mass produced for private and public landscaping projects, many  
5 species have become extinct or are rare and threatened, thus  
6 caution should be exercised when utilizing these plants in  
7 landscaping projects; and

8  
9           WHEREAS, House Bill No. 378 (Regular Session 2011) proposed  
10 amending section 103D-408, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to require  
11 all plans, designs, and specifications for state capital  
12 improvement projects to exclusively incorporate native Hawaiian  
13 land plant species; and

14  
15           WHEREAS, House Bill No. 378 has multiple benefits,  
16 including the beautification of state facilities and properties,  
17 showcasing unique varieties of native Hawaiian plants, and  
18 preventing further spread of invasive species into Hawaii's  
19 fragile ecosystem; and

20  
21           WHEREAS, before mandating the use of native Hawaiian plants  
22 in state projects, however, more research should be conducted to  
23 assess the environmental and nutritional needs of the different  
24 varieties of plants and, in particular, to identify plants with  
25 drought tolerant traits to increase the likelihood of survival;  
26 and

27  
28           WHEREAS, the vast majority of native Hawaiian plants have a  
29 poor survival rate between the elevations of one hundred feet



1 above sea level and fifteen hundred feet above sea level; now,  
2 therefore,

3  
4 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
5 Twenty-sixth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
6 of 2011, the Senate concurring, that the University of Hawaii at  
7 Hilo is requested to seek grant moneys and additional resources  
8 for studying the feasibility of incorporating native Hawaiian  
9 plant species in capital improvement projects; and

10  
11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature requests that  
12 the study include a categorization of the different native  
13 Hawaiian plant varieties suitable for use in state projects, an  
14 assessment of the environmental and nutritional needs of native  
15 Hawaiian plants, and other recommendations for incorporating  
16 these plants without jeopardizing their survival; and

17  
18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the University of Hawaii at  
19 Hilo is requested to submit a final report of its findings and  
20 recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the  
21 Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of  
22 the Regular Session of 2012; and

23  
24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
25 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chancellor of the  
26 University of Hawaii at Hilo; the President of the University of  
27 Hawaii; and the Chairperson of the Board of Regents of the  
28 University of Hawaii.

29  
30  
31  
*Gen. Ward*

OFFERED BY: *Hyeabima*

*Ricki Aubert*

*Karen Kurama*

*Paul S. ...*

*John F. ...*

*M. ...*

*Mel ...*

*Janice ...*

*John M. ...*

