
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE TO CONDUCT A STUDY
LAYING THE GROUNDWORK FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AGRICULTURE
WATER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM, INCLUDING PERFORMING A STATEWIDE
WATER DEVELOPMENT STUDY.

1 WHEREAS, Act 101, Session Laws of Hawaii 1998, directed the
2 Department of Agriculture (DOA) to complete the Agriculture
3 Water Use and Development Plan (AWUDP); and
4

5 WHEREAS, the AWUDP's stated objectives were to:
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- 7 (1) Inventory the irrigation water systems of the State;
8
9 (2) Identify the extent of rehabilitation needed for each
10 system and establish criteria to prioritize such
11 rehabilitation;
12
13 (3) Subsidize the cost of repair and maintenance of the
14 government systems;
15
16 (4) Develop a five-year program to repair the systems; and
17
18 (5) Setup a long-range plan to manage the systems;
19

20 and
21

22 WHEREAS, the AWUDP was completed in 2003, revised in 2004,
23 and incorporated into the Department of Land and Natural
24 Resources, Commission of Water Resource Management's plan; and
25

26 WHEREAS, many existing irrigation water systems already
27 have demand that is equal to or exceeds current capacity, and
28 increased water availability is therefore a key element in
29 enabling the State to increase local agricultural production to,
30 among other things:



- 1 (1) Replace imports;
- 2
- 3 (2) Grow biofuel/bioenergy crops;
- 4
- 5 (3) Expand diversified agriculture; and
- 6
- 7 (4) Develop sustainable farms;
- 8

9 and

10
11 WHEREAS, to be successful farmers require that water supply
12 be consistent, dependable, and economical; now, therefore,

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14 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
15 Twenty-sixth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
16 of 2011, the Senate concurring, that DOA is requested to conduct
17 a study that lays the groundwork for further development of the
18 agriculture water development program; and

19
20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this study explore and develop
21 strategies to:

- 22
- 23 (1) Provide short-term and long-term solutions to the
24 water needs of the agriculture and bio-energy
25 industries;
- 26
- 27 (2) Provide for DOA's undertaking of Phase II of the
28 agriculture water development program, including, as
29 an initial step, the preparation of a statewide water
30 development study that:
 - 31
 - 32 (A) Briefly summarizes the previous, current, and
33 future plans to implement the AWUDP (2004);
 - 34
 - 35 (B) Identifies and analyzes for each island, the
36 existing and future water resources that may be
37 developed for agricultural use for commercial
38 farms, surface water capacity, subsurface water
39 capacity, and other water-producing facilities;
 - 40
 - 41 (C) Identifies additional support and ancillary
42 facilities, including storage and distribution
43 support for the farming areas;



- 1 (D) To the extent feasible, computes the probable
2 range of water demand for the various areas,
3 based on the range of probable agricultural use;
4
- 5 (E) Develops alternatives to implement additional
6 capacity to meet existing and potential future
7 demand for the various farming areas;
8
- 9 (F) Proposes and discusses alternative management
10 concepts for the various water systems;
11
- 12 (G) Uses the Geographical Information System (GIS),
13 using current available data sets, defines what
14 data sets need to be developed, if any, and
15 develops the GIS, in conjunction with the DOA and
16 its specifications for DOA use;
17
- 18 (H) Provides planning-level cost estimates for
19 developing new sources and related supporting and
20 ancillary facilities;
21
- 22 (I) Develops an implementation plan including funding
23 alternatives; and
24
- 25 (J) Summarizes the regulatory framework, including
26 pertinent legal decisions;
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28 and
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30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that DOA submit a progress report to
31 the Legislature no later than 20 days prior to the convening of
32 the 2012 Regular Session; and
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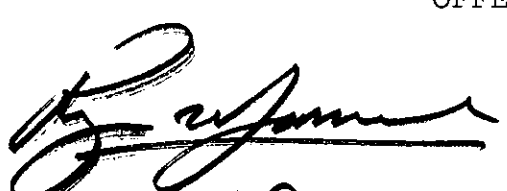
34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that DOA submit its final report,
35 including findings and recommendations, to the Legislature no
36 later than 20 days prior to the convening of the 2014 Regular
37 Session; and

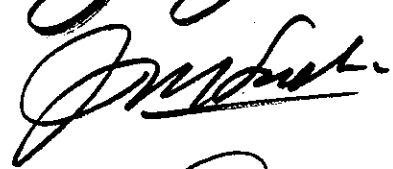


1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 2 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the
 3 Board of Agriculture.
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 6


OFFERED BY:


 Karen Awanad















MAR 3 2011

