
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE JUDICIARY TO EXPEDITE THE SELECTION OF THE SITE FOR
THE KONA JUDICIARY COMPLEX AND CONSIDER LA'I'OPUA AS A
POTENTIAL SITE FOR THE COMPLEX.

1 WHEREAS, the island of Hawai'i is the island with the second
2 largest population in the State, and specifically the County of
3 Hawai'i has had the highest population growth rate in the State
4 in the past decade; and
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6 WHEREAS, according to the County of Hawai'i 2005 General
7 Plan, the population of North and South Kona represents
8 approximately 25 percent of the entire county population, which
9 is projected to steadily increase through 2020 with a 52.5
10 percent increase from the 2000 census; and
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12 WHEREAS, court facilities in the West Hawai'i area of the
13 County of Hawai'i, specifically the Kona region, are grossly
14 inadequate to meet the current and future needs of the growing
15 West Hawai'i population; and
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17 WHEREAS, major court operations are presently scattered
18 throughout the Kona area at separate facilities, none of which
19 were originally designed for use as a court, which has resulted
20 in operational deficiencies, greater security risks, and public
21 inconvenience; and
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23 WHEREAS, none of the West Hawai'i courtrooms meet the
24 requirements of modern courtroom design; and
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26 WHEREAS, the various buildings serving as court facilities
27 in West Hawai'i lack appropriate or otherwise have inappropriate
28 holding facilities for defendants making court appearances,
29 resulting in overcrowded holding cells where defendants share
30 common areas with court personnel and the general public; and
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1 WHEREAS, court facilities in West Hawai'i also suffer from
2 inadequate parking, storage space, rodent infestation, and
3 compliance with Adults with Disabilities Act access
4 requirements; and
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6 WHEREAS, the Third Circuit Court lacks a juvenile detention
7 center; and
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9 WHEREAS, the aforementioned circumstances necessitate
10 immediate design and construction of a new court complex for the
11 Kona area; and
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13 WHEREAS, the Judiciary is currently engaged in the site
14 selection process for the Kona Judiciary Complex, with the final
15 decision to be made by the Chief Justice of the Hawai'i Supreme
16 Court; now, therefore,
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18 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
19 Twenty-sixth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
20 of 2011, the Senate concurring, that the Judiciary is urged to
21 expedite the selection of the site for the Kona Judiciary
22 Complex; and
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24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Judiciary is urged to
25 consider the site known as La'i'Opua, tax map key number 3-7-4-
26 021:003, which is under the jurisdiction of the Department of
27 Hawaiian Home Lands, as a potential site for the Kona Judiciary
28 Complex; and
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30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Hawaiian Home
31 Lands is urged to cooperate with the Judiciary for purposes of
32 selecting a site for the Kona Judiciary Complex; and
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34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
35 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chief Justice of the
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1 Hawai'i Supreme Court and the Chairperson of the Hawaiian Homes
2 Commission.

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