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## HOUSE RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO ALLOW INDIVIDUAL WASTEWATER SYSTEMS TO BE A VIABLE AND AFFORDABLE SOLUTION TO SAFELY TREAT WASTEWATER RATHER THAN REQUIRING COSTLY CONNECTION TO MUNICIPAL WASTEWATER TREATMENT SYSTEMS.

1           WHEREAS, the cost of affordable housing continues to climb  
2 beyond the reach of many families in the State; and

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4           WHEREAS, infrastructure development and expansion costs  
5 have prohibited many developers from constructing and providing  
6 affordable housing inventory, resulting in developments that lie  
7 idle; and

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9           WHEREAS, the development or expansion of infrastructure,  
10 including water, wastewater, roads, and utilities has advanced  
11 slowly due to cost, environmental, and capacity issues; and

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13           WHEREAS, sewer infrastructure and treatment plants face  
14 serious system failures, and overdue maintenance and costs to  
15 operate and maintain these facilities far exceed tax revenues  
16 earmarked for these purposes; and

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18           WHEREAS, there are new technologies for individual  
19 wastewater systems that are environmentally supportive and have  
20 been considered an acceptable interim alternative to sewer  
21 connection by the Department of Health; and

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23           WHEREAS, the Wastewater Branch of the Environmental  
24 Management Division, Department of Health, has regulatory  
25 oversight over the approval of individual wastewater systems and  
26 grants interim approvals, subject to renewal approval, of  
27 individual wastewater systems until connection to sewer  
28 infrastructure is available; and

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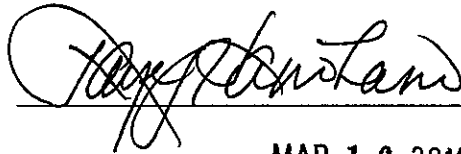
1 WHEREAS, the costs to install, service, and maintain  
2 individual wastewater systems are a fraction of the cost for  
3 sewer connection and could feasibly reduce the cost for the  
4 initial development of affordable housing, as well as  
5 maintenance costs after the home is occupied; and  
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7 WHEREAS, with regular and proper maintenance, individual  
8 wastewater systems should be considered a primary option rather  
9 than an interim solution to sewer connection and wastewater  
10 treatment; now, therefore,  
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12 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
13 Twenty-sixth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
14 of 2011, that the Department of Health is urged to allow the use  
15 of individual wastewater systems as a viable and affordable  
16 solution to safely treat wastewater rather than requiring costly  
17 connection to municipal sewer treatment systems; and  
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19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this  
20 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Health.  
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23

OFFERED BY: \_\_\_\_\_



MAR 16 2011

