
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE TO
CONVENE A TASK FORCE TO DEVELOP LONG-RANGE GOALS AND PLANS
FOR THE MOLOKAI IRRIGATION SYSTEM.

1 WHEREAS, construction of the Molokai Irrigation System was
2 started in 1957 to provide water to the central farming areas of
3 Molokai; and
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5 WHEREAS, construction of the Molokai Irrigation System was
6 part of a federal and state commitment to native Hawaiian
7 homesteaders, consistent with the objectives of the Hawaiian
8 Homes Commission Act, 1920, as amended, to enable native
9 Hawaiians to return to their lands and promote self-sufficiency;
10 and
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12 WHEREAS, the Department of Agriculture is charged with the
13 maintenance and operation of the Molokai Irrigation System; and
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15 WHEREAS, the provision of adequate amounts of water for
16 agricultural operations is essential to creating new jobs and
17 increasing revenue generated therefrom; and
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19 WHEREAS, water levels in the Molokai Irrigation System are
20 critically low, estimated to be as low as ten feet; now,
21 therefore,
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23 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
24 Twenty-sixth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
25 of 2012, the Senate concurring, that the Chairperson of the
26 Board of Agriculture is requested to convene, and chair, a task
27 force to develop long-range goals and plans for the Molokai
28 Irrigation System; and
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30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chairperson of the Board of
31 Agriculture is requested to include on the task force:



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- 2 (1) The Chairperson of the Board of the Agribusiness
- 3 Development Corporation;
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- 5 (2) The Chairperson of the Hawaiian Homes Commission;
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- 7 (3) The Chairperson of the Board of Education;
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- 9 (4) The Chairperson of the Molokai Irrigation System Water
- 10 Users Advisory Board; and
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- 12 (5) Any other person that the chairperson of the task
- 13 force deems advisable; and
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15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to
 16 submit to the Legislature a report of its findings and
 17 recommendations, including any proposed legislation, no later
 18 than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session
 19 of 2013; and

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 21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 22 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the
 23 Board of Agriculture, the Chairperson of the Board of the
 24 Agribusiness Development Corporation, the Chairperson of the
 25 Hawaiian Homes Commission, the Chairperson of the Board of
 26 Education, and the Chairperson of the Molokai Irrigation System
 27 Water Users Advisory Board.

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OFFERED BY: *Mele Carmel*

MAR 14 2012