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HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR TO CONDUCT A STUDY REGARDING SPECIAL FUNDS AND REVOLVING FUNDS.

WHEREAS, non-general funds, such as special, revolving, federal, and trust funds, exist outside the State's main financial account, or general fund; and

WHEREAS, nearly half of the State's operating budget is contained in non-general funds, which affects the Legislature's ability to direct spending; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature often "raids" money in special or revolving funds as a way to access money when the general fund has shortfalls; and

WHEREAS, these fund transfers lack a systematic and structured review process which has resulted in serious financial consequences to the State; and

WHEREAS, the Office of the Auditor issued a report in July 2012 outlining the pitfalls of the use of non-general funds for State operating moneys; and

WHEREAS, many non-general funds have outlived their usefulness and are not used properly; and

WHEREAS, the State must utilize all the moneys at its disposal in an effective and efficient manner; and

WHEREAS, major financial concerns, such as the State's unfunded liabilities, warrant a major re-assessment and overhaul of non-general funds; and

WHEREAS, unfunded liabilities pose a serious financial burden to the State and a study should be conducted to determine which non-general funds are failing to effectuate the purpose for which they were originally intended and then to determine if

such moneys can be applied toward the State's unfunded liabilities; now, therefore,

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BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2013, that the Office of the Auditor is requested to conduct a study regarding special funds and revolving funds to:

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Identify their inefficiencies and make recommendations (1)for an effective monitoring process;

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(2) Identify specific special and revolving funds that do not meet or no longer meet their criteria for continuance set out in law;

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(3) Create a checklist for establishing funds and monitoring funds, including specifying regular review dates; and

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Create a checklist of inefficient special or revolving (4)funds that should be terminated and the moneys therein transferred to the general fund or used to reduce the State's unfunded liabilities; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Office of the Auditor is requested to submit a report of its findings and recommendations, including any necessary proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty days before the Regular Session of 2014; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the Acting State Auditor.

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