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SENATE RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES TO CONVENE A WORKING GROUP TO CHOOSE A LOCATION FOR, BUILD, AND OPERATE AN INFORMATIONAL KIOSK FOR THE PUBLIC IN THE HAWAII CAPITAL HISTORIC DISTRICT.

WHEREAS, a dense array of unique historic sites, each pivotal to the social and political legacy of Hawaii, has accumulated within a small number of street blocks in urban Honolulu; and

WHEREAS, these historic sites include the Iolani Palace, the Hawaiian Mission Houses Historic Site and Archives, Kawaiahao Church, Saint Andrew's Cathedral, Washington Place, the State Capitol Building, the Kamehameha Statue, Honolulu City Hall, and numerous other sites whose aesthetics and narratives render prime visitor destinations for tourists and local residents alike; and

WHEREAS, transportation difficulties afflicting the historic district - including parking limitations, heavy traffic, bus delays, taxi costs, and confusing one way streets - lead visitors to often condense visits to many historic sites into a single trip and to travel between the sites by foot; and

WHEREAS, due to funding restraints and advertisement costs, many of the nonprofit foundations supporting these historic sites cannot afford sufficient publicity, and thus their enriching exhibits and presentations often fail to enter the general public's colloquium as tourist attractions and household names; and

WHEREAS, locals and visitors benefit substantially from exposure to these cultural gems; a greater understanding of the historic trajectory of Hawaii and its significance to national and international affairs could broaden public patronage, thereby assisting the educational nonprofits that support our historic sites to remain solvent through frequent economic hardships; and

WHEREAS, information conveyed through this public kiosk could be presented either through the interpersonal medium of human attendants or through the electronic medium of an interactive digital display, as costs and efficiency permit; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2013, that the Department of Accounting and General Services is urged to convene a working group to choose a location for, build, and operate an informational kiosk available to the public that is physically located in the Hawaii Capital Historic District; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group include representatives from the Hawaii Tourism Authority, the City and County of Honolulu, and interested private entities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Accounting and General Services is requested to submit a report to the Legislature within six months of the adoption of this measure that contains the working group's plan for building, operating, and funding an informational kiosk in the Hawaii Capital Historic District; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Comptroller, President of the Hawaii Tourism Authority, and Mayor of the City and County of Honolulu.