
HOUSE RESOLUTION

URGING THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU TO REPAIR AND MAINTAIN
THE BEACH ACCESS POINTS AT SUNSET BEACH ON THE NORTH SHORE
OF OAHU

1 WHEREAS, beaches are central to cultural, recreational, and
2 subsistence practices in Hawaii; and

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4 WHEREAS, beaches are a key part of the coastal environment,
5 providing essential habitat for many species; and

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7 WHEREAS, healthy beach and dune systems provide natural
8 protection from coastal flooding and property loss during high
9 waves and storms; and

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11 WHEREAS, beaches are also a major attraction for Hawaii's
12 \$14,400,000,000 visitor economy, and Hawaii's beaches
13 consistently rank among the most popular beach destinations in
14 the world; and

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16 WHEREAS, Hawaii's beaches are being lost through a process
17 known as coastal erosion or shoreline retreat; and

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19 WHEREAS, studies by the University of Hawaii and the United
20 States Geological Survey find that seventy per cent of beaches
21 have eroded and over thirteen miles of beach have been
22 completely lost to erosion in Hawaii over the past century; and

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24 WHEREAS, the percentage of beaches eroding and rates of
25 beach erosion will only increase with projected increases in
26 rates of sea level rise; and

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28 WHEREAS, the swells from the northeast highly contribute to
29 the rapid erosion of the Northern shoreline of Oahu, and the
30 eroding shoreline severely impacts the health and safety of
31 residents and recreational users, such as those affected by the
32 compromised beach access points at Sunset Beach; and

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35 WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of the City and County of
36 Honolulu to properly maintain safe public access to shorelines



1 and beaches on the island of Oahu, including public access to
2 Sunset Beach; and
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4 WHEREAS, there is currently a hazardous condition at Sunset
5 Beach, due to the disrepair of the public access path; at one
6 point City workers put up yellow "caution" tape across the path,
7 but beachgoers have since removed the tape in order to gain
8 access to the beach; now, therefore,
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10 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
11 Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
12 Session of 2014, that the City and County of Honolulu is
13 strongly urged to repair and maintain the damaged beach access
14 points at Sunset Beach on the North Shore of Oahu; and
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16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
17 Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the Board of
18 Land and Natural Resources, the Mayor of the City and County of
19 Honolulu, the Director of Department of Parks and Recreation for
20 the City and County of Honolulu, and the Councilmember for
21 District 2, Honolulu City Council.
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OFFERED BY:

Richard L. The.

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MAR 07 2014

