

MAR 07 2014

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE SEVERAL COUNTIES TO REEVALUATE AND, IF NECESSARY,
UPDATE THEIR BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES FOR CONSTRUCTION TO
MINIMIZE SOIL EROSION AND SEDIMENT RUN-OFF.

1 WHEREAS, the construction process often involves the
2 removal of vegetation, the alteration of topography, and the
3 covering of previously vegetated surfaces with impervious cover
4 such as roads, driveways, and buildings; and
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6 WHEREAS, these changes to the landscape may result in the
7 erosion of soil and the sedimentation of water bodies as soil
8 travels in water run-off; and
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10 WHEREAS, petroleum and other chemicals on construction
11 sites may be included in the pollution that drains to water
12 supplies during storm events; and
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14 WHEREAS, the effects of several storms on a particular
15 project, and the erosion and sediment contributions from several
16 projects, cumulatively have a significant effect on water
17 quality and may alter or destroy aquatic habitats and reefs; and
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19 WHEREAS, state waters are a precious resource that provide
20 sustenance to not only Hawaii's economy, but Hawaii's culture
21 and heritage as well; and
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23 WHEREAS, best management practices are generally effective
24 and involve practical methods of eliminating or reducing the
25 discharge of pollutants from construction sites into state
26 waters; and
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28 WHEREAS, a number of construction projects are meeting best
29 management practices but are nevertheless creating run-off and
30 polluting Hawaii's nearshore waters; and
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1 WHEREAS, the fact that run-off continues to pollute the
2 State's nearshore waters even when best management practices are
3 met indicates that the current best management practices should
4 be reevaluated and strengthened; now, therefore,
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6 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-seventh
7 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2014, the
8 House of Representatives concurring, that the several counties
9 are requested to reevaluate and, if necessary, update their best
10 management practices for construction to minimize soil erosion
11 and sediment run-off that may damage the State's reefs and
12 nearshore waters; and
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14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the various counties are
15 requested to consider best management practices for:
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- 17 (1) Large scale projects;
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- 19 (2) Projects on steep slopes;
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- 21 (3) Grading and grubbing during winter months, which have
22 increased potential for rain; and
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24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the counties are requested to
25 consider the increasing severity of storms and the fact that
26 current best management practices may have been developed when
27 several counties were experiencing extended periods of drought;
28 and
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30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that each county is requested to
31 report its findings and recommendations, including any proposed
32 legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior
33 to the convening of the Regular Session of 2015; and
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35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
36 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Planning
37 and Permitting for the City and County of Honolulu, Directors of
38 Planning for the counties of Hawaii, Maui, and Kauai, and the
39 Mayor and the Chairperson of the Council of each county.
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OFFERED BY: _____

Diana Paul



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