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## SENATE RESOLUTION

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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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32           WHEREAS, the fact that run-off continues to pollute the  
33 State's nearshore waters even when best management practices are  
34 met indicates that the current best management practices should  
35 be reevaluated and strengthened; now, therefore,



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 2 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-seventh  
 3 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2014,  
 4 that the several counties are requested to reevaluate and, if  
 5 necessary, update their best management practices for  
 6 construction to minimize soil erosion and sediment run-off that  
 7 may damage the State's reefs and nearshore waters; and

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 9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the various counties are  
 10 requested to consider best management practices for:

- 11  
 12 (1) Large scale projects;  
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 14 (2) Projects on steep slopes;  
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 16 (3) Grading and grubbing during winter months, which have  
 17 increased potential for rain; and

18  
 19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the counties are requested to  
 20 consider the increasing severity of storms and the fact that  
 21 current best management practices may have been developed when  
 22 several counties were experiencing extended periods of drought;  
 23 and

24  
 25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that each county is requested to  
 26 report its findings and recommendations, including any proposed  
 27 legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior  
 28 to the convening of the Regular Session of 2015; and

29  
 30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
 31 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Planning and  
 32 Permitting for the City and County of Honolulu, Directors of  
 33 Planning for the counties of Hawaii, Maui, and Kauai, and the  
 34 Mayor and the Chairperson of the Council of each county.

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 36  
 37 OFFERED BY:

*Shana Tuel*

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*Rosa P. J.*  
*J. L. M.*

