
SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO DESIGNATE THE ROYAL ORDER OF KAMEHAMEHA AS THE KONOHIKI OF KA'AWALOA TO HAVE OVERSIGHT AND MANAGEMENT OF KA'AWALOA, TO FORMULATE A MASTER PLAN FOR KA'AWALOA, AND TO EXPLORE THE POSSIBILITY OF LEASING THE KA'AWALOA LAND TO THE NONPROFIT ROYAL ORDER OF KAMEHAMEHA.

1 WHEREAS, the discovery of the Hawaiian Islands by Captain
2 James Cook in 1778 was an event of worldwide implications; and
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4 WHEREAS, the Hawaiian Islands were immediately recognized
5 as a strategic discovery, serving as a refueling port and midway
6 point in traversing the vast Pacific Ocean, which dramatically
7 and forever altered the destiny of an island civilization that
8 had evolved for centuries in isolation from the rest of the
9 world; and
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11 WHEREAS, Ka'awaloa was the vibrant village and home of
12 Kalaniopu'u, the ruling chief of Hawai'i in 1778, and it was also
13 where Captain Cook anchored his two sailing vessels in the
14 offshore waters of Kealakekua Bay to engage and learn about life
15 in the islands and restock food and water supplies; and
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17 WHEREAS, Captain Cook's introduction of western
18 civilization to Hawaii, along with its technologies, weapons,
19 and diseases, dramatically altered the underpinnings of a simple
20 yet sophisticated island society; and
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22 WHEREAS, Captain Cook was killed on the shoreline of
23 Ka'awaloa as a result of a number of incidents and cultural
24 missteps with native villagers; news of his demise spread
25 rapidly throughout Europe, followed by a steady and unending
26 flow of vessels to the Hawaiian Islands from nations throughout
27 the world; and
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29 WHEREAS, the discovery of the Hawaiian Islands by Captain
30 Cook brought dramatic changes to Hawaii's ancient governance,
31 religion, economy, and societal structure that were amplified by



1 the fact that native Hawaiians lacked immunities to the simplest
2 of illnesses which were nonexistent in the islands but prevalent
3 throughout the western world; and
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5 WHEREAS, there was no meaningful action to honor the death
6 and remains of Captain Cook at Ka'awaloa, and one hundred years
7 after his death the British government erected a monument on the
8 site where he died on a parcel near the shoreline, which was
9 gifted by the Hawaiian Kingdom to the British counsel; and
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11 WHEREAS, while no event or place in the Hawaiian Islands
12 rivals the worldwide impact and historic stature of Captain
13 Cook's discovery and subsequent death at Ka'awaloa, no other
14 event or place in the Hawaiian Islands can be linked to the
15 indiscriminate loss of life and irreparable impairment that
16 ravished the health, character, and destiny of Hawaii's native
17 inhabitants who died at an inordinate rate from the simplest of
18 illnesses; and
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20 WHEREAS, the State of Hawaii has struggled for years to
21 gain the necessary support for a plan that appropriately honors
22 Ka'awaloa, without the broad based support of the families of the
23 neighboring communities and the numerous native Hawaiian
24 organizations involved in the preservation, perpetuation, and
25 advocacy of native Hawaiian culture; and
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27 WHEREAS, the State of Hawaii provides a special designation
28 to Iolani Palace and the Royal Mausoleum under the
29 administration of the Division of State Parks; and
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31 WHEREAS, Ka'awaloa should be viewed as the predecessor of
32 Iolani Palace, having been the ancient seat of governance for
33 the ruling chief of the islands in 1778; and
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35 WHEREAS, Ka'awaloa was a mausoleum for Hawaii's ruling
36 chiefs who were buried in the cliffs that buttressed Ka'awaloa as
37 well as grave sites and heiau within the village that required
38 greater security and oversight; and
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40 WHEREAS, the Royal Order of Kamehameha was established in
41 1865 by Kamehameha V, Lot Kapuaiwa, to honor his grandfather
42 Kamehameha the Great who unified the Kingdom of Hawaii not long
43 after the death of Captain James Cook; and



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 2 WHEREAS, the Royal Order of Kamehameha continues to observe
 3 and preserve the ancient traditions, rituals, and customs of
 4 Hawaii's ancient leaders and understands the sensitivities,
 5 protocols, and cultural nuances that are essential to the
 6 historical and cultural underpinnings of the State of Hawaii;
 7 and

8
 9 WHEREAS, the Royal Order of Kamehameha is broadly
 10 recognized and acknowledged throughout Hawai'i as the preeminent
 11 leader, responsible for sustaining Hawaii's ancient traditions,
 12 obligations, and duties in perpetuity for all future
 13 generations; and

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 15 WHEREAS, the Aha Moku Advisory Committee has the
 16 responsibility under section 171-4.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes,
 17 to provide to the Department of Land and Natural Resources
 18 advice on integrating indigenous resource management practices
 19 with western management practices in each moku, among other
 20 things; now, therefore,

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 22 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-seventh
 23 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2014,
 24 that:

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 26 (1) The Department of Land and Natural Resources is
 27 requested to designate the Royal Order of Kamehameha
 28 as the konohiki of Ka'awaloa, to have oversight and
 29 management of Ka'awaloa;

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 31 (2) The Royal Order of Kamehameha, in its capacity as
 32 konohiki of Ka'awaloa, is requested to formulate a
 33 master plan for Ka'awaloa that honors Hawaii's most
 34 consequential historical event, the discovery of the
 35 Hawaiian Islands and its introduction to Western
 36 civilization;

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 38 (3) In the formulation of the Ka'awaloa Master Plan, the
 39 Royal Order of Kamehameha is requested to consult with
 40 the Aha Moku Advisory Committee and all trusts
 41 established by the descendants of Kamehameha the Great
 42 for the benefit of native Hawaiians, including the
 43 Queen Liliuokalani Trust, Kamehameha Schools, The



1 Queen's Health Systems, Lunalilo Trust, Trustees of
2 the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, the executive
3 leadership of the Hawaiian Civic Clubs, as well as the
4 families and community organizations of Napo'opo'o;
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6 (4) The Royal Order of Kamehameha, in formulating the
7 Ka'awaloa Master Plan, is requested to consult with
8 Hawaii County, which has announced its intention to
9 complete the second phase of the highway, a requisite
10 of the Hokulia project that will provide a more
11 readily available access to Ka'awaloa, and to also
12 consult with the major landowners in the vicinity,
13 including the Keauhou Resort, Hokulia, and neighboring
14 ranches; and
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16 (5) The Department of Land and Natural Resources is
17 requested to explore the possibility of leasing the
18 Ka'awaloa land of approximately forty acres to the
19 nonprofit Royal Order of Kamehameha for a nominal sum;
20 and
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22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Land and
23 Natural Resources is requested to fund the costs of formulating
24 the Ka'awaloa Master Plan and to seek private funding from
25 nonprofits with an interest in the Master Plan; and
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27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Land and
28 Natural Resources is requested to report to the Legislature on
29 the details of the Ka'awaloa Master Plan no later than twenty
30 days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2015; and
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32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
33 Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the Board of
34 Land and Natural Resources and the Royal Order of Kamehameha.
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