HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY CONTROL TO ADOPT THE ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE GUIDANCE DOCUMENT AS AGENCY POLICY FOR USE IN THE STATE ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW PROCESS.

WHEREAS, the Legislature adopted Senate Resolution No. 140 in 2005 requesting the Environmental Council, with the assistance of the Office of Environmental Quality Control and the University of Hawai'i Environmental Center to develop and promulgate a guidance document on including principles of environmental justice in all phases of environmental review undertaken pursuant to Chapter 343, Hawaii Revised Statutes; and

WHEREAS, the Environmental Council drafted a plan to accomplish the tasks requested by the Legislature; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature, in Act 294, Session Laws of Hawaii 2006, appropriated \$82,325 for the Environmental Council to contract with a consultant to facilitate and coordinate the State's environmental justice activities; and

WHEREAS, the Environmental Council hired an Environmental Justice Project Coordinator who prepared a Hawaii Environmental Justice Initiative Report dated January 9, 2008, which resulted in the definition of environmental justice for Hawaii and an environmental justice guidance document to ensure that principles of environmental justice are systematically included in all phases of the environmental review process; and

WHEREAS, the Environmental Council and the Office of Environmental Quality Control has had over ten years to complete this work and was provided funding to do so; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-eighth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular

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Session of 2016, the Senate concurring, that the Office of Environmental Quality Control is urged to adopt the environmental justice guidance document as agency policy for use in the State environmental review process; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Office of Environmental Quality Control is requested to report on the progress made toward adopting the environmental justice guidance document as agency policy to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the commencement of the 2017 Regular Session; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Health, Director of the Office of Environmental Quality Control, and the Chairperson of the Environmental Council.

OFFERED BY:

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