
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND DEPARTMENT OF
PARKS AND RECREATION OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU TO
LANDSCAPE HAWAII'S PUBLIC HIGHWAYS AND ROADS BY PLANTING
MORE TREES.

1 WHEREAS, trees are essential to a healthy environment for
2 Hawaii, and increasing the number of trees planted in Hawaii
3 would improve Hawaii's natural beauty and provide other needed
4 benefits; and

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6 WHEREAS, trees supply oxygen in the air we breathe and keep
7 the air supply fresh by absorbing carbon dioxide; and

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9 WHEREAS, trees provide shade and shelter; reducing annual
10 heating and cooling costs in the United States by
11 \$2,100,000,000; and

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13 WHEREAS, tree roots stabilize the soil, prevent soil
14 erosion, support the capture and conservation of our water
15 supply, and help remediate pollutants; and

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17 WHEREAS, trees cut down on noise pollution by acting as
18 sound barriers; and

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20 WHEREAS, trees lower air temperatures by evaporating water
21 from their leaves; and

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23 WHEREAS, in the 1980s, Hawaii successfully planted
24 1,200,000 trees for the "A Million Trees of Aloha" initiative;
25 and

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27 WHEREAS, the concept of "Green Hawaii" is to landscape
28 Hawaii's highways and roads by planting more trees; and

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1 WHEREAS, Hawaii's visitor industry markets Hawaii as a
2 "Tropical Wonderland"; and

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4 WHEREAS, many visitors to Hawaii expect a clean, green, and
5 beautiful Hawaii with lush greenery; and

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7 WHEREAS, the lush beauty of Hawaii should be promoted,
8 preserved, and perpetuated as a unique visitor experience; and

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10 WHEREAS, tourism is the primary economic driver of the
11 State's economy; and

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13 WHEREAS, green landscapes enhance the visual impact of the
14 tourist experience; and

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16 WHEREAS, landscaping is an integral part of our culture and
17 plays an essential role in the quality of our environment,
18 affecting our economic well-being and our physical and
19 psychological health; and

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21 WHEREAS, it is well-known that tourists who visit Hawaii
22 want to see the "real" Hawaii which includes indigenous or
23 endemic trees and plants; and

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25 WHEREAS, landscaping with indigenous or endemic trees and
26 plants may enhance the knowledge of visitors and residents on
27 their many uses as they were often used by Native Hawaiians for
28 medicine, shelter, and subsistence, and as nourishment for
29 indigenous animals and birds; and

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31 WHEREAS, it is the duty of the State to improve the
32 economic well-being and physical and psychological health of its
33 citizens if we are to keep our communities strong and
34 prosperous; and

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36 WHEREAS, the reputation of Hawaii as a paradise is vital to
37 the Native Hawaiian culture, State's tourism industry, and the
38 State's economy; now, therefore,

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40 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-eighth
41 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2016, the
42 House of Representatives concurring, that the State Department



1 of Transportation and Department of Parks and Recreation of the
2 City and County of Honolulu are urged to landscape Hawaii's
3 public highways and roads by planting more trees, including
4 trees that are indigenous or endemic to Hawaii; and
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6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
7 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the State Director of
8 Transportation and Director of Parks and Recreation of the City
9 and County of Honolulu.

