

MAR 04 2016

SENATE RESOLUTION

URGING THE OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS TO DEVELOP A PLAN FOR ITS
FIVE HUNDRED ELEVEN ACRES OF THE FORMER GALBRAITH ESTATE.

1 WHEREAS, in 2012, the State purchased over seventeen
2 hundred acres of agricultural land from the Galbraith Estate
3 through a coordinated effort between the State, City and County
4 of Honolulu, Office of Hawaiian Affairs, United States Army, and
5 D.R. Horton; and
6

7 WHEREAS, \$25,000,000 went into the acquisition of the
8 former Galbraith Estate; and
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10 WHEREAS, the Agribusiness Development Corporation received
11 twelve hundred acres and the Office of Hawaiian Affairs received
12 five hundred eleven acres of agricultural land; and
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14 WHEREAS, since the acquisition, the Agribusiness
15 Development Corporation has dedicated its twelve hundred acres
16 to the Whitmore Project, which is a detailed plan to revitalize
17 Hawaii's local agriculture industry; and
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19 WHEREAS, tenants who were selected and awarded leases to
20 farm on the Whitmore Project lands have cleared and prepared the
21 land for planting; and
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23 WHEREAS, placing more farmers on state land increases local
24 food production which is critical to self-sufficiency and food
25 security; and
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27 WHEREAS, the administration recognizes the importance of
28 self-sufficiency and has shown its commitment to the Whitmore
29 Project by continuing to invest and acquire agricultural lands
30 and facilities; and
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32 WHEREAS, the Office of Hawaiian Affairs' land, which could
33 be used for agricultural production, remains unused and fallow;
34 and
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1 WHEREAS, the Office of Hawaiian Affairs has listed on its
2 website the land acquisition objective of exploring the
3 development of compatible agricultural uses and other
4 programmatic initiatives; and
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6 WHEREAS, the Office of Hawaiian Affairs has also listed on
7 its website the land acquisition objectives of contributing "to
8 Hawaii's food self-sufficiency, preservation of open space and
9 watershed lands and overall community planning goals for central
10 O'ahu"; and
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12 WHEREAS, the purpose of Act 31, Session Laws of Hawaii
13 2015, which began as part of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs'
14 2015 legislative package, was to amend the Hawaii State Planning
15 Act by adding "the growth and development of traditional
16 Hawaiian farming systems and traditional Hawaiian crops, as well
17 as the growth and development of small-scale farms, as
18 agricultural objectives of the State";
19

20 WHEREAS, Act 31, Session Laws of Hawaii 2015, amended
21 section 226-7, Hawaii Revised Statutes, by adding the
22 agricultural objectives of "perpetuat[ing], promot[ing], and
23 increas[ing] use of traditional Hawaiian farming systems, such
24 as the use of loko i'a, māla, and irrigated lo'i, and growth of
25 traditional Hawaiian crops, such as kalo, 'uala, and 'ulu"; and
26 "increas[ing] and develop[ing] small-scale farms"; now,
27 therefore,
28

29 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-eighth
30 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2016,
31 that the Office of Hawaiian Affairs is urged to develop a plan
32 for its five hundred eleven acres of the former Galbraith Estate
33 for the purposes and objectives that the Office promoted in Act
34 31, Session Laws of Hawaii 2015; and
35

36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the plan include the Office of
37 Hawaiian Affairs' objectives and goals of contributing to
38 Hawaii's food self-sufficiency, and creating a sustainable and
39 efficient model for agriculture in the State of Hawaii; and
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41 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Office of Hawaiian Affairs
42 provide a report of its findings and recommendations, including



1 any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than
2 twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of
3 2017; and

4
5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
6 Resolution be transmitted to Chairperson of the Board of
7 Trustees of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs and Chief Executive
8 Officer of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs.
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OFFERED BY:

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