
SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO
ENGAGE IN EARNEST NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE CURRENT LAND OWNERS
OF THE MAKAI LANDS OF KAPUA TO ACQUIRE THOSE LANDS ON
BEHALF OF THE STATE OR TO LEASE THOSE LANDS IN PERPETUITY
ON BEHALF OF THE STATE.

1 WHEREAS, the makai lands of Kapua in south Kona on the
2 island of Hawaii are a scenic wonder with breathtaking shoreline
3 views and comprise at least 6,000 privately owned acres in south
4 Kona that are classified as agricultural or conservation land;
5 and
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7 WHEREAS, Kapua is sparsely populated and evokes strong
8 emotions stemming from its rich heritage, culture, and history
9 of Native Hawaiian practices; and
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11 WHEREAS, the makai lands contain significant historical,
12 archaeological, and cultural resources, including a hōlua slide,
13 ancient coastal trail, village sites, and superb biological
14 resources including native dryland forests and Native Hawaiian
15 plants; and
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17 WHEREAS, according to the Department of Land and Natural
18 Resources, the makai lands include four parcels that cover over
19 7,780 acres of land within the agricultural and conservation
20 state land use districts, including two parcels that sit next to
21 the Manukā Natural Area Reserve, which is the State's largest
22 natural area reserve and is part of the South Kona Wilderness
23 Area created by Act 178, Session Laws of Hawaii 2011; and
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25 WHEREAS, the State should seek to acquire the makai lands
26 of Kapua in the interests of preserving the area's pristine
27 condition for future generations while ensuring the preservation
28 of agricultural and conservation lands in the area; now,
29 therefore,
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1 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-eighth
2 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2016,
3 that the Department of Land and Natural Resources is requested
4 to engage in earnest negotiations with the current land owners
5 of the makai lands of Kapua to acquire those lands on behalf of
6 the State or to lease those lands in perpetuity on behalf of the
7 State; and

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9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this
10 Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the Board of
11 Land and Natural Resources.

