HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE, 2018 STATE OF HAWAII



HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO ALLOW THE COUNTIES TO USE VACANT STATE LANDS AS STORAGE FOR ABANDONED VEHICLES.

1	WHEREAS, abandoned vehicles in the State of Hawaii are a
2 3	safety issue, an environmental issue, and a parking issue; and
3 4	WHEREAS, in 2016, the City and County of Honolulu towed
5	about 1,600 abandoned vehicles and tow companies complained that
6	their lots are overcrowded with abandoned and derelict vehicles
7	and they do not have the space to store any more vehicles; and
8 9	WHEREAS, abandoned vehicles often become objects of
9 10	graffiti and vandalism in residential areas, which makes them
11	eyesores and a danger to nearby residents; and
12	
13	WHEREAS, some of the vehicles are abandoned on public
14	property and can remain there for months at a time; and
15 16	WHEREAS, abandoned vehicles often become occupied by
10	homeless individuals; and
18	
19	WHEREAS, according to the Department of Customer Services,
20	the City and County of Honolulu has requested an additional two
21	to four acres of land for one to two years to store abandoned
22	vehicles; and
23 24	WHEREAS, towing companies have experienced increased
25	operating costs in the past few years due to an increase in
26	industrial real-estate values, which has resulted in a loss of
27	storage lots for towed vehicles, and it is difficult to obtain
28	additional storage lots from property owners because they are
29	hesitant to lease their land to a towing company; and

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WHEREAS, when towing companies' lots are full, they need to 1 travel to other lots that are further away to store the 2 abandoned vehicles, which results in higher operating costs for 3 the towing companies; and 4 5 6 WHEREAS, towing companies may not be interested in county contracts because available storage lots are in areas that would 7 8 increase their travel expenses; and 9 WHEREAS, between 2011 and 2016, about 1,440 abandoned 10 11 vehicles on towing storage lots in Oahu were traced to military personnel who abandoned their vehicles when they left the 12 island, creating further storage problems for towing companies; 13 14 and 15 WHEREAS, military vehicles that are ferried into the State 16 cost the counties even more than the typical abandoned vehicle, 17 18 and these military vehicles make up a significant portion of 19 abandoned vehicles in the State; and 20 21 WHEREAS, the Department of Land and Natural Resources has 22 control over State lands that may be currently vacant and not 23 being used for any purpose; and 24 25 WHEREAS, allowing the counties to use the Department's vacant land to store abandoned vehicles would eliminate the 26 costs that towing companies would otherwise incur from storing 27 abandoned vehicles on their premises; now, therefore, 28 29 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the 30 Twenty-ninth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session 31 32 of 2018, the Senate concurring, that the Department of Land and 33 Natural Resources is urged to allow the counties to use the Department's vacant state lands as storage for abandoned 34 vehicles; and 35 36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Land and 37 Natural Resources is urged to give the counties the discretion 38 to select from any available state land under the jurisdiction 39 of the Department of Land and Natural Resources; and 40

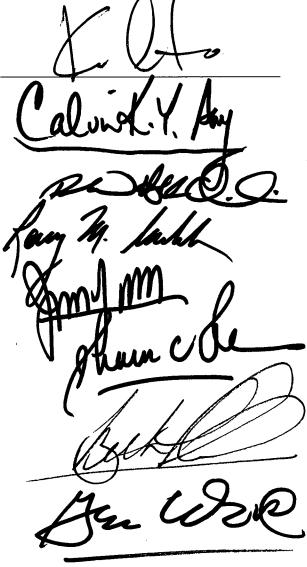
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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources and the Mayor of each county.

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OFFERED BY:



MAR - 8 2018

