
HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING AN INCREASED HONOLULU POLICE DEPARTMENT PRESENCE IN
THE CHINATOWN AND DOWNTOWN HONOLULU AREAS.

1 WHEREAS, the Chinatown Historic District in Honolulu is one
2 of the oldest Chinatowns in the United States, and Downtown
3 Honolulu is home to some of Oahu's most historic places; and
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5 WHEREAS, it is important to maintain the safety of business
6 owners, workers, and patrons, as well as to protect their
7 property and possessions; encourage commercial activity; and
8 preserve the history and culture of the Chinatown and Downtown
9 Honolulu areas; and
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11 WHEREAS, crimes such as drug dealing, illegal gambling,
12 robbery, and purse snatching are plaguing business owners and
13 dissuading visitors from visiting these areas; and
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15 WHEREAS, there has been an increase in crime, particularly
16 in assaults and thefts, during the last quarter of 2016; and
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18 WHEREAS, in September 2016, a woman was fatally shot in an
19 illegal gaming room in the Chinatown area, and in September
20 2017, a man was fatally shot while he sat outside a Chinatown
21 store; and
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23 WHEREAS, according to a Honolulu Police Department (HPD)
24 report, there was a total of fifty-three reported incidents
25 relating to motor vehicle theft, theft, unauthorized entry into
26 a motor vehicle, or graffiti-related incidents from January 6,
27 2018, through January 19, 2018, in Sector 1, identified as the
28 Downtown, Aala Park, and Chinatown area; and



H.R. NO. 16

1 WHEREAS, while the number of reported incidents within a
 2 short period of time is already a concern, many crimes may not
 3 be reported to HPD; and

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 5 WHEREAS, there is concern about the recent increase in and
 6 severity of criminal activity, and business owners in Chinatown
 7 are calling for more police presence in the area; and

8
 9 WHEREAS, increasing the visible presence of uniformed
 10 police officers would improve public safety by deterring
 11 criminal activity as well as providing more immediate assistance
 12 to victims once a crime has been committed; now, therefore,

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 14 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
 15 Twenty-ninth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
 16 of 2018, that the Mayor of the City and County of Honolulu and
 17 the Honolulu City Council are strongly urged to allocate more
 18 resources to the Honolulu Police Department, for the purpose of
 19 increasing visible police presence in, and active patrols of,
 20 the Downtown and Chinatown areas; and

21
 22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 23 Resolution be transmitted to the Mayor of the City and County of
 24 Honolulu, the Chair of the Honolulu City Council, the Chief of
 25 the Honolulu Police Department, and the Chair of the Downtown-
 26 Chinatown Neighborhood Board.

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 28
 29 OFFERED BY:

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