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HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE COUNTY OF HAWAII TO CREATE ALTERNATE ROUTES TO PROPERTIES IN THE PUNA DISTRICT THAT WERE AFFECTED, BUT NOT DESTROYED, BY THE 2018 KILAUEA ERUPTION.

WHEREAS, in May 2018, the worst volcanic disaster in Hawaii's history destroyed approximately seven hundred homes in the Puna district; and

WHEREAS, the already minimal road system in the Puna district was significantly impacted by the closure of major thoroughfares due to lava flow; and

WHEREAS, prior to the 2018 eruption, the Puna district had a thriving papaya industry; and

WHEREAS, although some of the papaya farms in the Puna district are still intact, the roads to these farms are now long and arduous, causing significant decreases in the papaya farms' revenues due to work delays and increased transportation costs; and

WHEREAS, those residents of the Puna district whose homes were not destroyed by the eruption are similarly burdened by the stresses and costs incurred as a result of having to travel extensive distances to reach their respective properties; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2019, the Senate concurring, that the County of Hawaii is urged to create alternate routes to properties in the Puna district that were affected, but not destroyed, by the 2018 Kilauea eruption; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Mayor of Hawaii County, the Chairperson of the Hawaii County Council, and the Division Chief of the Highway Maintenance Division of the Hawaii County Department of Public Works.

OFFERED BY:

Dan Tames

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