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H.C.R. NO. 185

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING AN AUDIT OF HARBOR INSPECTION PROCEDURES.

WHEREAS, the statewide harbors system consists of ten commercial harbors located at Honolulu, Kalaeloa Barbers Point, Hilo, Kawaihae, Kahului, Hana, Kaunakakai, Kaumalapau, Nawiliwili, and Port Allen; and

WHEREAS, the major activities of the harbors program are to maintain, repair, and operate the ten commercial harbors that comprise the statewide harbors system; plan, design, and construct harbor facilities; provide program planning and administrative support; manage vessel traffic into, within, and out of harbor facilities; provide for and manage the efficient utilization of harbor facilities and lands; and maintain offices and facilities for the conduct of maritime business with the public; and

WHEREAS, the activities of the harbors program interrelate with other public and private sectors, such as the United States Treasury Department, which inspects foreign goods to ensure a proper assessment of duty; the United States Department of Agriculture, which inspects goods to safeguard the State against the introduction of biological pests and invasive species; the United States Customs and Border Protection, which monitors the flow of foreign people and goods through state ports; and

WHEREAS, as of 2007, an estimated ninety-nine percent of commercial goods were imported to Hawaii through the State's system of ten commercial harbors, and anecdotal information at that time indicated that illegal drugs were shipped to the islands in containerized cargo; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of

H.C.R. NO. 195

2019, the Senate concurring, that the Auditor is requested to conduct an audit of current Department of Transportation procedures in inspecting shipping containers for illegal goods at state harbors; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the audit should cover the following:

(1) Current inspection procedures for both out-of-state and inter-island arrivals;

(2) Shortcomings with the current procedures; and

(3) Necessary procedural changes to help reduce the volume of illegal goods imported into the State; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Auditor is requested to submit a report of the Auditor's findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2020; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Auditor, Director of Transportation, and Harbors Administrator.

OFFERED BY:

Dang Carnes

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Joseph Ala San Ala San

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