
HOUSE RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO CONVENE A TASK FORCE TO
EVALUATE AND IDENTIFY POTENTIAL SOURCES AND MEANS OF
FUNDING AVAILABLE TO PROVIDE SUPPORT FOR AND HELP MAINTAIN
THE HAWAII WILDLIFE CENTER FACILITY AND HAWAII'S ENDANGERED
WILDLIFE.

1 WHEREAS, Hawaii has the largest concentration of endangered
2 and threatened species in the world, a majority of which are
3 birds; and
4

5 WHEREAS, more than two-thirds of the various types of
6 endemic Hawaiian birds are already extinct and over eighty
7 percent of the remaining types are threatened with extinction;
8 and
9

10 WHEREAS, oil- and fuel-related spills affecting Hawaii's
11 native wildlife have occurred in the past and will occur in the
12 future; and
13

14 WHEREAS, oiled wildlife response is a critical public
15 service that requires extensive experience, wildlife
16 rehabilitation permits, and the appropriate hazardous materials
17 safety training and certification; and
18

19 WHEREAS, successful emergency responses to oil- or fuel-
20 related disasters require a facility that provides efficient and
21 state-of-the-art wildlife care; controls, handles, and tracks
22 animals and hazardous waste; and ensures the safety of everyone
23 working with oiled wildlife; and
24

25 WHEREAS, successful emergency responses to wildlife
26 affected by oil- or fuel-related disasters rely on the
27 availability of facilities, systems, and protocols that are
28 already in place, so response can begin immediately after an
29 event occurs; and



1 WHEREAS, without a response facility in place, public
2 safety would be compromised due to potential exposure to
3 hazardous petroleum products because of improper handling of
4 affected wildlife; and
5

6 WHEREAS, without a response facility in place, Hawaii's
7 native wildlife would suffer and accidents affecting them would
8 result in a higher mortality rate; and
9

10 WHEREAS, the Hawaii Wildlife Center already serves as a
11 critical emergency response facility for the training of
12 response personnel and volunteers, and for the rehabilitation of
13 injured, sick, and contaminated wildlife throughout the Pacific
14 Islands region; and
15

16 WHEREAS, the Hawaii Wildlife Center is the only native
17 wildlife emergency response and rehabilitation facility in the
18 State and in the Pacific Islands region that meets all federal
19 and state standards for accommodating large-scale rescue and
20 rehabilitation efforts targeting sick, injured, or oiled
21 wildlife; and
22

23 WHEREAS, the Legislature finds that the Hawaii Wildlife
24 Center provides a critical public service that serves the
25 purpose of protecting the public and Hawaii's vulnerable
26 endangered wildlife; and
27

28 WHEREAS, the Hawaii Wildlife Center facility provides a
29 critical public service to the State of Hawaii but does not
30 receive any operational funding assistance from the State or
31 federal government; now, therefore,
32

33 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
34 Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of
35 2019, that the Department of Health is requested to convene a
36 task force to evaluate and identify potential sources and means
37 of funding available to provide support and help maintain the
38 Hawaii Wildlife Center facility for the purpose of providing a
39 critical public service to protect the public and Hawaii's
40 endangered wildlife; and



1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Director of Health, or the
2 Director's designee, is requested to serve as the chair of the
3 task force, and that the task force be comprised of:

- 4
- 5 (1) One member to be appointed by the President of the
6 Senate;
- 7
- 8 (2) One member to be appointed by the Speaker of the House
9 of Representatives;
- 10
- 11 (3) One member representing the Hawaii Wildlife Center;
- 12
- 13 (4) The State On-Scene Coordinator of the Department of
14 Health's Hazard Evaluation and Emergency Response
15 Office;
- 16
- 17 (5) The Wildlife Program Manager of the Department of Land
18 and Natural Resource's Division of Forestry and
19 Wildlife;
- 20
- 21 (6) The Commander of United States Coast Guard Sector
22 Honolulu; and
- 23
- 24 (7) A contaminant biologist from the United States Fish
25 and Wildlife Service; and
- 26

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to
28 evaluate the appropriate level of funding and the potential use
29 of the environmental response revolving fund established under
30 section 128D-2, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to help maintain the
31 Hawaii Wildlife Center facility; and

32

33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to
34 submit a report of its findings and recommendations, including
35 any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than
36 twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of
37 2020; and



1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 2 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Health, Deputy
 3 Director for Environmental Health Administration, Administrator
 4 of the Department of Land and Natural Resource's Division of
 5 Forestry and Wildlife, Commander of the United States Coast
 6 Guard District 14, Director of the United States Fish and
 7 Wildlife Service, and President and Center Director of the
 8 Hawaii Wildlife Center.

9
 10
 11

OFFERED BY: Dan Rana

[Signature]
[Signature]
Guthrie Thielon
[Signature]
[Signature]
[Signature]
[Signature]
[Signature]

[Signature]
[Signature]
[Signature]
[Signature]
[Signature]
[Signature]
[Signature]
[Signature]
[Signature]

MAR 08 2019

