
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE COUNTIES AND DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO CONTINUE TO
WORK ON SUSTAINABLE WATER MEASURES AND SUPPORT ONGOING
WATER CONSERVATION EFFORTS.

1 WHEREAS, Hawaii receives consistent rainfall, has
2 advantageous geology for aquifers, and has high-quality drinking
3 water stores; and
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5 WHEREAS, recent findings raise concerns about the long-term
6 water security for the State as members of the scientific
7 community, including the University of Hawaii, have documented
8 troubling trends in recent decades, including reduced rainfall,
9 higher evaporation rates, and declining stream flows; and
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11 WHEREAS, evidence suggests that rainfall has decreased by
12 twenty-two percent in Hawaii over the last thirty years; and
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14 WHEREAS, while computer models differ markedly in their
15 predictions regarding precipitation patterns and water
16 availability in Hawaii over the coming decades, the unmistakable
17 observed trend is one of decreasing rainfall and increased
18 incidence of drought; and
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20 WHEREAS, if the current trend holds, by 2030 Hawaii will
21 receive only three quarters of the rain that fell in 1985; and
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23 WHEREAS, Hawaii has recently made progress on increasing
24 water reuse, conservation, and recharge through the statewide
25 Fresh Water Initiative, which aims to increase fresh water
26 supply by one hundred million gallons per day by 2030; and
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28 WHEREAS, Act 42, Session Laws of Hawaii 2015, authorized
29 the counties to charge user fees to create and maintain any



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1 stormwater management or infrastructure, which encourages water
2 recharge and encourages the protection of water resources; and

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4 WHEREAS, the City and County of Honolulu has been the
5 leader in evaluating the merits of a stormwater utility for Oahu
6 as a way to better manage stormwater, increase green
7 infrastructure for improved water recharge, and demonstrate more
8 accountability for stormwater program operations; and

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10 WHEREAS, Act 170, Session Laws of Hawaii 2016, requires all
11 state and county facilities to use reclaimed water for non-
12 potable uses by December 31, 2045; and

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14 WHEREAS, Act 141, Session Laws of Hawaii 2017, requires the
15 adoption of Universal Plumbing Code updates, among other
16 building code and standard updates, within two years of official
17 publication; and

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19 WHEREAS, because of Act 141, Session Laws of Hawaii 2017,
20 plumbing code updates will take effect for all counties in 2020;
21 and

22
23 WHEREAS, Kauai County has been the leader on plumbing code
24 updates that provide more stringent rules on water conservation
25 and further details on water reuse design standards; and

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27 WHEREAS, in 2018, S.R. No. 74, S.D. 2, required a water
28 reuse task force to be organized to discuss how to scale water
29 reuse in Hawaii and overcome barriers; and

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31 WHEREAS, in 2019, the Legislature provided for two water
32 reuse demonstration projects; and

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34 WHEREAS, Act 202, Session Laws of Hawaii 2019, requires the
35 Department of Health to adopt rules for on-site non-potable
36 water reuse systems, which will provide invaluable information
37 to developers and engineers; and

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39 WHEREAS, multiple entities, including government, non-
40 profit, business, and academics, are collaborating to enhance
41 water conservation reuse and recharge in the State to ensure



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1 fresh water access for current and future generations; now,
2 therefore,

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4 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
5 Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of
6 2020, the Senate concurring, that the counties and Department of
7 Health are requested to continue to work on sustainable water
8 measures and support ongoing water conservation efforts; and
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10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the counties are requested to
11 update plumbing codes to the most recent versions before
12 mandatory deadlines take effect; and
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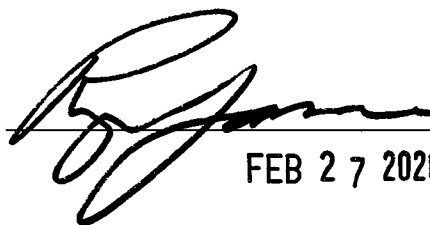
14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the counties are requested to
15 contemplate developing stormwater utilities to encourage
16 sustainable stormwater management practices; and
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18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Health is
19 requested to continue work on developing on-site non-potable
20 water reuse system rules to ensure the safe and efficient use of
21 recycled water at the building level; and
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23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the counties and Department of
24 Health are requested to continue to support ongoing efforts to
25 enhance fresh water supplies in Hawaii and increase water
26 conservation, reuse, and recharge; and
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28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
29 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Director
30 of Health, Mayor of the City and County of Honolulu, Mayor of
31 the County of Hawaii, Mayor of the County of Maui, and Mayor of
32 the County of Kauai.
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OFFERED BY:



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