
HOUSE RESOLUTION

URGING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU AND THE
HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL TO INSTALL AND MAINTAIN A NEW CAMERA
SYSTEM IN DOWNTOWN AND CHINATOWN.

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 protect their property
7 and possessions; encourage commercial activity; and preserve the
8 history and culture of the Chinatown and Downtown Honolulu
9 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 residents and dissuading visitors from visiting these areas; and
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15 WHEREAS, in June 2018, a former Honolulu sports reporter
16 was beaten into a coma on Maunakea Street in Chinatown and
17 passed away soon after; and
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19 WHEREAS, in October 2019, a fifty year-old man was robbed
20 at knifepoint in the Chinatown area; and
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22 WHEREAS, in December 2019, an eighty year-old woman's bag
23 was snatched while she was waiting to start her early morning
24 tai chi class near the Nuuanu Stream; and
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26 WHEREAS, a touchscreen visitor information kiosk depicting
27 the Honolulu mayor was destroyed when someone punched and broke
28 the glass screen; and
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30 WHEREAS, a website entitled ChinatownWatch.com was created
31 by a small business owner displaying people defecating on the
32 sidewalks, drinking alcohol in public, vandalism, such as



H.R. NO. 53

1 graffiti, broken shop and car windows, and illegal dumping of
2 garbage; and

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4 WHEREAS, there is concern about the recent increase in and
5 severity of criminal activity, and business owners and residents
6 in Chinatown are calling for immediate assistance to victims of
7 crime in the area; and

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9 WHEREAS, the cameras monitoring the Chinatown area
10 currently do not work; and

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12 WHEREAS, installing a new camera system in Chinatown would
13 improve public safety by deterring criminal activity, as well as
14 providing more immediate assistance to victims once a crime has
15 been committed; now, therefore,

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17 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
18 Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of
19 2020, that the Mayor of the City and County of Honolulu and
20 Honolulu City Council are strongly urged to install and maintain
21 a new camera system in the Downtown and Chinatown areas; and

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

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OFFERED BY:

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Lyn DeLoite

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H.R. NO. 53

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