
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE AUDITOR TO CONDUCT A PERFORMANCE AUDIT OF ALL THE PROGRAMS WITHIN THE STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION DIVISION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES.

1 WHEREAS, the Department of Land and Natural Resources'
2 State Historic Preservation Division serves to protect and
3 preserve historic properties significant to Hawaii's history
4 through several program areas; and
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6 WHEREAS, the State Historic Preservation Division has
7 indicated that it has faced challenges with insufficient
8 staffing and funding, which hinder its ability to carry out its
9 important duties and responsibilities in a timely manner; and
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11 WHEREAS, under section 23-5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, the
12 Auditor may examine and inspect all accounts, books, records,
13 files, papers, and documents and all financial affairs of every
14 department, office, agency, and political subdivision;
15 now, therefore,
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17 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-second
18 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2023, the
19 House of Representatives concurring, that the Auditor is
20 requested to conduct a performance audit of all the programs
21 within the State Historic Preservation Division of the
22 Department of Land and Natural Resources; and
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24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the performance audit is
25 requested to include but not be limited to:
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- 27 (1) An evaluation of whether the review and response to
28 submittals is completed within the timeframes
29 established by rule;
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- 1 (2) Current project review practices, including efforts to
2 identify categorical exemptions; historic properties
3 and districts that should have special protections or
4 treatment; identification of types of sites that do
5 not require permit review; filing systems; and efforts
6 to streamline processes such as the discovery process
7 for burial sites;
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- 9 (3) Standardization of monitoring protocols, including the
10 establishment of cultural impact assessment guidance;
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- 12 (4) The actions, initiatives, and performance of the State
13 Historic Preservation Division to address the existing
14 project review backlog; and
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- 16 (5) Any recommended improvements, including proposed
17 legislation, to update, redefine or realign the State
18 Historic Preservation Division's mission and
19 organization based on balancing cultural and historic
20 preservation with the State's evolving land
21 development needs; and
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23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Auditor shall submit a
24 report of its findings and recommendations, including any
25 proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty
26 days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2025; and
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28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
29 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Auditor, Chairperson
30 of the Board of Land and Natural Resources, and Administrator of
31 the State Historic Preservation Division.

