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# HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING HAWAII'S CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO URGE CONGRESS TO  
FUND CONSTRUCTION OF A LABORATORY CERTIFIED BY THE  
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY TO PROVIDE INFORMATION TO  
THE PUBLIC ON ENVIRONMENTAL TOXINS IN THE STATE.

1           WHEREAS, for decades, the State has been subjected to  
2 environmental degradation caused by multiple entities that have  
3 deposited materials that are toxic to human health and the  
4 natural environment; and

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6           WHEREAS, the State continues to lack a testing laboratory  
7 certified by the Environmental Protection Agency that is capable  
8 of identifying diseases and toxins present in the State's air,  
9 water, soil, and biological specimens; and

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11           WHEREAS, Hawaii residents often rely on data relating to  
12 environmental toxins that are provided by the very same entities  
13 that have caused the toxins to be present in the State's natural  
14 environment; and

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16           WHEREAS, the State's ability to evaluate the presence of  
17 environmental toxins is often delayed due to the need to send  
18 samples to laboratories located in the continental United States  
19 and the results from sample analyses may be withheld by the  
20 agencies that control the supply of the samples to those  
21 laboratories; and

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23           WHEREAS, the presence of environmental toxins caused by  
24 pollutants has notably increased, particularly with the rapid  
25 expansion of the use of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances  
26 "PFAS", a group of three synthetic organofluorine chemical  
27 compounds, which have been found to be highly toxic; and

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29           WHEREAS, a laboratory certified by the Environmental  
30 Protection Agency should be constructed in the State to address  
31 these issues and to facilitate the prompt and transparent



1 disclosure of the results of testing samples taken from the  
2 State; and

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4 WHEREAS, the laboratory would need to comply with all  
5 applicable standards enumerated in the Clinical Laboratories  
6 Improvement Amendments of 1988, title 42 United States Code,  
7 section 263a; and

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9 WHEREAS, the present lack of a laboratory negates the  
10 State's responsibility to evaluate and, as appropriate, confirm  
11 or reject contentions by federal government departments and  
12 agencies, including the Department of Defense, Environmental  
13 Protection Agency; state agencies such as the Department of  
14 Health; and other private entities, relating to environmental  
15 toxic chemicals such as TPH-D, TPH-O, TPH-G, petroleum  
16 constituents, PFAS, PFAS-related substances, and many other  
17 toxins found throughout the State's natural environment; and

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19 WHEREAS, the cost of construction of the laboratory is  
20 likely in the range of \$100,000,000, and the annual operational  
21 cost, including staffing, exceeds \$200,000; and

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23 WHEREAS, these costs are currently beyond the State's means  
24 as Hawaii endeavors to respond adequately to the catastrophe of  
25 the August 2023 Maui wildfires that destroyed Lahaina and  
26 damaged Upper Kula, Pulehu, Kihei, and Kaaanapali; now,  
27 therefore,

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29 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
30 Thirty-second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular  
31 Session of 2024, the Senate concurring, that Hawaii's  
32 congressional delegation is urged to take all action necessary  
33 and proper to cause congress to appropriate sufficient funds for  
34 the benefit of the State to construct and commence operation of  
35 a laboratory certified by the Environmental Protection Agency to  
36 provide analysis of environmental toxins in the State; and

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38 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the laboratory is urged to  
39 publish the results of its analyses to the public; and

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41 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Governor, Department of  
42 Health, and other relevant governmental agencies are urged to



1 support the construction and the commencement of the operations  
2 of the laboratory; and

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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
5 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to Hawaii's congressional  
6 delegation, the Governor, and Director of Health.

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OFFERED BY: Amy Peruso

MAR - 8 2024

