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# HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES TO CONDUCT A STUDY ON THE FEASIBILITY OF EXEMPTING ALL STATE-RELATED CONSTRUCTION FROM COUNTY PERMITTING REQUIREMENTS AND ESTABLISHING A PERMITTING DIVISION WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT TO BE RESPONSIBLE FOR PERMITTING SERVICES FOR ALL STATE-RELATED CONSTRUCTION.

1           WHEREAS, developers in the State are generally required to  
2 obtain building permits from the county in which their project  
3 is located to ensure that construction and renovation work is  
4 completed in accordance with federal, state, and local laws,  
5 ordinances, and codes; and

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7           WHEREAS, county agencies responsible for permitting have  
8 been experiencing difficulties in hiring qualified land use plan  
9 reviewers, resulting in a chronic backlog of permit  
10 applications; and

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12           WHEREAS, a survey issued in April 2022 by the University of  
13 Hawaii Economic Research Organization found that Hawaii, Kauai,  
14 and Maui County and the City and County of Honolulu were among  
15 the nation's eleven most heavily regulated counties and that the  
16 average delay in issuing building permits in Hawaii is three  
17 times longer than the survey sample mean; and

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19           WHEREAS, state departments routinely oversee construction  
20 projects, all of which require approval from the county in which  
21 the project is located; and

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23           WHEREAS, multiple stages of project review at the county  
24 level contribute to the county permitting agencies' permit  
25 backlog; and

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27           WHEREAS, it is prudent to eliminate barriers that prevent  
28 expeditious construction of projects that are over seen by the  
29 State; now, therefore,



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BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Thirty-second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2024, that the Department of Accounting and General Services is requested to conduct a study on the feasibility of exempting all state-related construction projects from county permitting requirements and establishing a Permitting Division within the Department to be responsible for permitting services for all state-related construction; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the Comptroller.

OFFERED BY:   
MAR - 8 2024

