
HOUSE RESOLUTION

URGING THE COMPTROLLER TO TRANSFORM THE POOLS THAT SURROUND THE
STATE CAPITOL WITH TRADITIONAL LO'I STOCKED WITH FISH.

1 WHEREAS, the water in the pools that border the Capitol
2 building symbolizes the Pacific Ocean that surrounds the
3 Hawaiian Islands; and
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5 WHEREAS, from its inception, these pools have been plagued
6 with abundant growth of algae, primarily due to the use of
7 brackish water, the lack of an adequate water circulation
8 system, an abundance of sunlight on the pools' large surface
9 area, and the shallow pool depth; and
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11 WHEREAS, over the years, the State has attempted various
12 strategies to eliminate the algae, including stocking the pools
13 with tilapia, manually scrubbing the pool floor, spraying
14 special enzymes, and applying chlorine; and
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16 WHEREAS, this session, the State administration proposes to
17 spend \$7,900,000 to upgrade the pools' water circulation system
18 and replace its waterproof lining; and
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20 WHEREAS, when completed, the administration's proposal will
21 result in "...a pleasing environment of sparkling water and the
22 soothing sound of water playing through fountains"; and
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24 WHEREAS, however, before committing the Capitol pools to
25 this scenario, consideration should be given to using the
26 Capitol pools to showcase the early Hawaiian aquaculture
27 tradition which dates back many hundreds of years; and
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29 WHEREAS, transforming the pools into a series of
30 traditional lo'i, or irrigated terraces for growing crops,
31 stocked with fish would not only recognize our proud past but it
32 would also provide a living educational display in a heavily
33 visited location of the Capitol District; and
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1 WHEREAS, under this proposal, strategically placed pumps
 2 would circulate water throughout the lo'i, volunteers would
 3 maintain the lo'i and cultivate the crops, fish waste would
 4 fertilize the vegetation, and fish would consume the algae; and
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6 WHEREAS, this proposal would completely eliminate the
 7 unsightly growth of algae that has lingered in the Capitol pools
 8 for decades; now, therefore,
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10 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
 11 Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
 12 Session of 2008, that the Comptroller is urged to transform the
 13 pools surrounding the State Capitol with traditional lo'i stocked
 14 with fish; and
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16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Comptroller prepare a
 17 report regarding the labor, equipment, and other resources that
 18 would be necessary to establish and maintain the lo'i; and
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20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Comptroller is requested
 21 submit the report to the Legislature no later than 20 days prior
 22 to the convening of the 2009 Regular Session; and
 23

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this
 25 Resolution be transmitted to the Comptroller.
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 27
 28

OFFERED BY: 

MAR 12 2008