

MAR 13 2008

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## SENATE 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 Senate of the Twenty-fourth  
11 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2008,  
12 that the Comptroller is urged to transform the pools surrounding  
13 the State Capitol with traditional lo'i stocked with fish; and  
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15          BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Comptroller prepare a  
16 report regarding the labor, equipment, and other resources that  
17 would be necessary to establish and maintain the lo'i; and  
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19          BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Comptroller is requested  
20 submit the report to the Legislature no later than 20 days prior  
21 to the convening of the 2009 Regular Session; and  
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23          BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this  
24 Resolution be transmitted to the Comptroller.  
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OFFERED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

*Lynda Lee*  
*by request*

