

MAR 12 2008

SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE ACQUIRE THE LAND IN WAHIAWA, OAHU, UNDERLYING LAKE WILSON AND APPURTENANT LANDS ONLY IF CERTAIN REPAIRS ARE COMPLETED BY THE CURRENT OWNERS.

1 WHEREAS, the Wahiawa irrigation system, which includes Lake
2 Wilson, is on real property mostly owned by the Galbraith Trust
3 and an affiliate of Castle and Cooke Hawaii, Dole Food Company,
4 Inc; and

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6 WHEREAS, Lake Wilson has the potential to provide a
7 consistent water supply for one of Oahu's most productive
8 agricultural areas, and it also represents a potentially
9 valuable outdoor park and water recreational opportunity; and

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11 WHEREAS, concerns have arisen regarding the continued
12 structural integrity and maintenance of the Wahiawa Dam; and

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14 WHEREAS, a failure of the dam could cause loss of life,
15 injuries, and property damage to downstream areas throughout the
16 communities of Waialua and Haleiwa; and

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18 WHEREAS, recent discussions between the Galbraith Trust and
19 Castle and Cooke Hawaii and state officials have explored the
20 possibility of "gifting" the land beneath Lake Wilson to the
21 State; and

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23 WHEREAS, the irrigation system needs over \$4,200,000 in
24 immediate repairs and another \$2,980,000 in future fixes,
25 according to a recent study commissioned by the State; and

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27 WHEREAS, operation and maintenance of the irrigation system
28 is estimated to cost \$765,000 each year; now, therefore,

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30 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fourth
31 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2008,
32 that the Department of Agriculture, including all of its organic
33 and attached entities, is requested to neither purchase nor
34 accept the property known as the Wahiawa irrigation system (also



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1 known as the Wahiawa Reservoir, Lake Wilson, the Wahiawa dam,
2 and the irrigation ditch system that transports water from the
3 reservoir to Central Oahu and the North Shore) in its current
4 state of disrepair; and

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6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Agriculture
7 is urged to consider acquiring the Wahiawa irrigation system
8 only after the current owners have completed the necessary
9 repairs or provided a guarantee to finance and oversee those
10 repairs; and

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12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this body requests that repairs
13 of the Wahiawa irrigation system be considered complete only
14 after inspectors declare the dam and reservoir safe to impound
15 water and issue a certificate of approval to impound pursuant to
16 Chapter 179D, Hawaii Revised Statutes; and

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18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
19 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor and the Chairperson of
20 the Board of Agriculture.

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23 OFFERED BY:  _____

