
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE NA ALA HELE ADVISORY COUNCIL TO CONVENE A SERIES
OF DISCUSSIONS ON THE SAFE USE OF HUNTING DOGS ON TRAILS
THAT CROSS PUBLIC HUNTING AREAS.

1 WHEREAS, certain public hiking trails in the State of
2 Hawaii traverse across areas designated by the Department of
3 Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) as hunting areas, where
4 hunters, hikers, and outdoor enthusiasts come into contact with
5 one another; and

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7 WHEREAS, contact between these users increases on weekends
8 and state holidays, which are designated by DLNR as hunting
9 days; and

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11 WHEREAS, both hikers and hunters may be accompanied by dogs
12 on these hiking trails; and

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14 WHEREAS, the placement of public hiking trails in hunting
15 areas makes it easier for hunting dogs to move without restraint
16 on trails that are also used by hikers with pet dogs; and

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18 WHEREAS, hunters and their hunting dogs play an important
19 role in managing the feral pig populations on state lands,
20 further preserving our watershed areas and preventing damage on
21 private property; and

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23 WHEREAS, non-hunters are required by DLNR to keep their pet
24 dogs on leashes at all times while on public trails; and

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26 WHEREAS, hunters are required by DLNR to keep their dogs
27 "under restrictive control during transportation while in
28 transit at all times, to and from hunting areas within the
29 forest reserve"; and

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1 WHEREAS, the officers of DLNR's Division of Conservation
2 and Resources Enforcement that are responsible for enforcing
3 rules regarding hunting dogs lack the resources for enforcement
4 across vast areas of state lands and are unable to respond
5 quickly to concerns; and

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7 WHEREAS, the Na Ala Hele Advisory Council, made up of
8 members who represent all interested constituencies, including
9 hikers and hunters, was established to provide a public forum at
10 which all trail issues could be considered; and

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12 WHEREAS, concerns over safety on public hiking trails that
13 travel across hunting areas have been raised by residents,
14 hikers and outdoor enthusiasts that utilize these areas; now,
15 therefore,

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17 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
18 Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
19 of 2009, the Senate concurring, that the Na Ala Hele Advisory
20 Council convene a series of discussions on the safe use of
21 hunting dogs on trails that cross public hunting areas; and

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23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group should
24 include in the dialogue representatives from:

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26 (1) Honolulu Police Department;
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28 (2) Citizens for Safe Hiking;
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30 (3) Oahu Pig Hunters Association;
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32 (4) Hawaiian Humane Society;
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34 (5) Hawaii Hunting Association;
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36 (6) Hawaii Rifle Association;
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38 (7) Hawaiian Trail and Mountain Club; and
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40 (8) Other interested stakeholder groups; and

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42 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Na Ala Hele Advisory
43 Council submit a report on the outcomes of the discussions to

1 the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening
2 of the Regular Session of 2010; and

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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this
5 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the
6 Board of Land and Natural Resources.