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# SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE SENATE PRESIDENT AND THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO ESTABLISH A TASK FORCE TO DETERMINE THE ECONOMIC VALUE OF CONSTRUCTION IN HAWAII.

1 WHEREAS, tourism is Hawaii's principal industry, and  
2 visitor expenditures added over \$12,000,000,000 into the State's  
3 economy in 2007 and over \$11,000,000,000 in 2008; and  
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5 WHEREAS, the construction industry is also important to  
6 Hawaii's economy, contributing approximately \$3,400,000,000 to  
7 the State's economy and employing over six per cent of the  
8 State's workforce in 2008; and  
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10 WHEREAS, the current economic situation has resulted in a  
11 6.1 per cent unemployment rate in Hawaii as of January 2009, the  
12 highest in over twenty-five years; furthermore, the Department  
13 of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism estimates visitor  
14 arrivals will decline by 5.9 per cent for 2009, and the Chair of  
15 the Hawaii Council on Revenues anticipates a 3.2 per cent  
16 decline in construction in 2009; and  
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18 WHEREAS, the decline of the housing and credit markets, and  
19 the related construction downturn, and high unemployment are  
20 significantly affecting Hawaii's economy; and  
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22 WHEREAS, state support to study the current and potential  
23 economic benefits of the construction industry is warranted,  
24 given that the tourism and construction industries are such  
25 important drivers of the local economy, and is further warranted  
26 as the combined robustness of the construction, housing, and  
27 tourism industries can ultimately navigate the State's economy  
28 through the current recession to recovery; now, therefore,  
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30 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fifth  
31 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2009, the  
32 House of Representatives concurring, that the Senate President

1 and Speaker of the House of Representatives are requested to  
2 establish a task force to determine the economic contributions  
3 of the construction industry in Hawaii; and  
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5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force consist of the  
6 following seventeen members, each having one vote:  
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- 8 (1) One member shall be a reputable contractor or  
9 subcontractor to represent the construction industry,  
10 appointed by the Senate President;  
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- 12 (2) One member shall be a representative of labor unions,  
13 appointed by the Speaker of the House of  
14 Representatives;  
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- 16 (3) One member shall be a representative of the banking or  
17 finance industry, appointed by the Senate President;  
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- 19 (4) One member shall be a tax law professional, appointed  
20 by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;  
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- 22 (5) Eight members shall be landowner representatives, with  
23 one member representing each island; provided that the  
24 Senate President shall appoint the representatives for  
25 the islands of Hawaii, Maui, Molokai, and Kahoolawe,  
26 respectively, and the Speaker of the House of  
27 Representatives shall appoint the representatives for  
28 the islands of Oahu, Kauai, Lanai, and Niihau,  
29 respectively;  
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- 31 (6) One member shall be a hotel or development industry  
32 representative who has expertise in hospitality or  
33 timeshares, appointed by the Senate President; and  
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- 35 (7) Four members shall be representatives of federal,  
36 state, and county governments who have expertise in  
37 tax policy, two appointed by the Senate President and  
38 two by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;  
39 and  
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41 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of the task force  
42 shall select a chairperson from among themselves, and the  
43 chairperson is requested to convene task force meetings; and  
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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to:

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3 (1) Determine the value of the construction industry in  
4 Hawaii, including both the direct contributions of the  
5 industry to the local economy and the industry's  
6 economic benefits through other industries, such as  
7 tourism and housing; and

8  
9 (2) Develop and propose state actions, for the purpose of  
10 preserving and creating new jobs in the local  
11 construction industry, that should include but are not  
12 limited to incentives for the renovation or  
13 construction of hotels and other tourism-related  
14 facilities, and to determine the anticipated impact of  
15 those actions on the State's economy; and

16  
17 (3) Include a recommendation on the implementation of any  
18 proposed state actions developed by the task force, as  
19 well as a timeline for the implementation of those  
20 state actions; and

21  
22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to  
23 submit a report of its findings, analyses, and recommendations,  
24 including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later  
25 than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session  
26 of 2010; and

27  
28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
29 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Senate President and  
30 the Speaker of the House of Representatives.