

MAR 18 2009

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# SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO EXPLORE THE  
FEASIBILITY AND DEVELOP A PLAN TO RELOCATE THE KAPAA PUBLIC  
LIBRARY.

1           WHEREAS, the Kapaa Public Library in East Kauai was built  
2 in 1955 and is undersized and deteriorating; and  
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4           WHEREAS, according to United States Census records, the  
5 population of the service area (Kawaihau) has increased one  
6 hundred eighty-five per cent between 1960 and 2000; however,  
7 there has been no increase in the library's collection space  
8 during that same time period; and  
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10           WHEREAS, having recognized that the library is undersized  
11 for the area and population it serves, discussions for expansion  
12 of the library are ongoing; and  
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14           WHEREAS, an assessment of the existing facility by AM  
15 Partners, Inc., revealed several zoning, permit, and variance  
16 issues that would impede the library's expansion; and  
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18           WHEREAS, for example, the current zoning restricts the  
19 library to covering a maximum of ten per cent of its lot, but  
20 the current facility and pavement already cover thirty-seven per  
21 cent of the lot; hence, expansion is not a viable option at this  
22 current site; and  
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24           WHEREAS, the existing library is located adjacent to Kapaa  
25 County Beach Park and abuts a new, popular bike-walking path  
26 also owned by the County of Kauai; and  
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28           WHEREAS, at least one member of the County Council has  
29 indicated an interest in the library property for the purpose of  
30 expanding Kapaa County Beach Park and to capitalize on the  
31 popularity of the bike-walking path; and  
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1 WHEREAS, in addition, the proximity of the bike-walking  
2 path has added to parking issues as some people are using the  
3 library parking lot to access the path; and  
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5 WHEREAS, the backdoor of the library is less than fifty  
6 yards away from the shoreline and the salt air causes damage to  
7 the air conditioning and electrical systems, and the area would  
8 be at risk in the event of a tsunami; and  
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10 WHEREAS, the library is located on Kuhio Highway, the  
11 island's main thoroughfare, and traffic congestion deters local  
12 residents from visiting the library; and  
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14 WHEREAS, the relocation of the library to an area adjacent  
15 to the main Kapaa County Park off of Oloheua Road would support  
16 a dramatic expansion and improvement of the park, enhance the  
17 community activities now occurring at this inland location,  
18 increase accessibility to the library, and facilitate needed  
19 updating of the library facilities; now, therefore,  
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21 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fourth  
22 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2009, the  
23 House of Representatives concurring, that the Department of  
24 Education is requested to work with the County of Kauai, Kapaa  
25 community members, and appropriate state agencies to explore the  
26 feasibility of relocating the Kapaa Public Library to an inland  
27 location near or adjacent to the Kapaa County Park's sports  
28 field and the Army National Guard Facilities, and to develop a  
29 relocation plan; and  
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31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education is  
32 requested to consider incorporating the following into the plan  
33 for the new library:  
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- 35 (1) An expanded technology center and community center  
36 facilities for meetings and community gatherings;  
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38 (2) The swapping of county and state lands or some other  
39 agreement that provides the County of Kauai the right  
40 to use the land under the existing Kapaa Public  
41 Library; and  
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1 (3) The design and use of the new library as a potential  
2 disaster shelter for use during times of emergency;  
3 and  
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5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education is  
6 requested to report its findings and recommendations to the  
7 Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of  
8 the Regular Session of 2010; and  
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10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
11 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the  
12 Board of Education, the Superintendent of Education, the Mayor  
13 of Kauai, members of the Kauai County Council, the State  
14 Librarian, and the Kapaa Public Library Branch Manager.  
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OFFERED BY:

