HOUSE RESOLUTION

URGING THE STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION DIVISION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO EXPLORE THE USE OF GROUND PENETRATING X-RAY AND GEOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION SYSTEM TECHNOLOGY TO DETERMINE WHETHER THE USE OF THESE TECHNOLOGIES IS FEASIBLE.

WHEREAS, ground penetrating x-ray scanning devices have the ability to identify bones and artifacts prior to digging or excavating a site; and

WHEREAS, a geographical information system can record and extrapolate information regarding excavations, historic sites, and the location of bones and artifacts; and

WHEREAS, a geographical information system that captures, stores, analyzes, manages, and presents data is vital to merging existing maps with any images and information provided by new archaeological technology; and

WHEREAS, ground penetrating x-ray and geographical information system technology, while costly, could prevent damage to historical artifacts while saving the historic preservation division precious time from having to locate and extract these items from the ground; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2010, that this body urges the State Historic Preservation Division to explore the use of ground penetrating x-ray and geographic information system technology to determine whether the use by the Division of these technologies is feasible; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the State Historic Preservation Division is requested to report to the Legislature on:

(1) The costs associated with acquiring, maintaining, and using ground penetrating x-ray devices and a geographic information system that have the ability to
identify and map artifacts in the ground without the need for excavation; and

(2) Whether use of any of the archaeological equipment by the division is feasible based on the costs of the technology and the benefit to the State in identifying, locating, and preserving historic artifacts and human remains; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the State Historic Preservation Division is requested to report findings and recommendations to the Legislature not later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2011; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources and the State Historic Preservation Officer.

OFFERED BY:  

MAR 10 2010