
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO STUDY
THE EFFECTS OF SPORTS FIELD AND COURT LIGHTS ON THE
MIGRATORY PATTERNS OF SEABIRDS IN HAWAII.

1 WHEREAS, Hawaii is home to over thirty species of
2 endangered birds, including various seabirds endemic to Hawaii
3 such as the 'a'o or Newell's shearwater; and
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5 WHEREAS, seabirds rely on the moon and stars for
6 navigation, and are prone to mistake bright lights of sports
7 fields, hotels, parking lots, and other places for the moon and
8 stars; and
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10 WHEREAS, in 2005, federal wildlife officials notified the
11 county of Kauai that the lighting at evening high school
12 football games was hurting migratory birds, in violation of the
13 Endangered Species Act and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act; and
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15 WHEREAS, the county of Kauai reached an agreement with
16 prosecutors in which the county agreed to install shielded
17 lights at Kauai's three football fields, at an expense to the
18 county, because the county was facing possible federal
19 prosecution; and
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21 WHEREAS, each county is potentially at risk of incurring
22 related expenses to comply with federal law regarding the
23 migratory patterns of endangered birds; now, therefore,
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25 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
26 Twenty-sixth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
27 of 2011, the Senate concurring, that the Department of Land and
28 Natural Resources is requested to study the effects of sports
29 field and court lights on the migratory patterns of seabirds in
30 Hawaii; and
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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Land and
2 Natural Resources is requested to submit a report of findings
3 and recommendations to the Legislature no later than twenty days
4 prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2012; and

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

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OFFERED BY:

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