5

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, AND OFFICE OF PLANNING TO STREAMLINE THE PERMITTING PROCESS FOR THE RESTORATION OF HAWAIIAN FISHPONDS.

WHEREAS, repair of many Hawaiian fishponds may require permits from the Department of Land and Natural Resources, Department of Health, Office of Planning, and federal and county governments; and

WHEREAS, the process in obtaining a permit for the restoration of Hawaiian fishponds is time consuming, complicated, and confusing and varies depending upon the circumstances of party applying for the permit; and

WHEREAS, the existing regulations and permit requirements preclude community organizations and Native Hawaiian aquaculturalists from repairing and maintaining Hawaiian fishponds; and

WHEREAS, the State has the ability to streamline the permit process and promote interagency cooperation to facilitate restoration and leasing of fishponds to cultural and familial descendants; and

WHEREAS, the State has not led a comprehensive initiative to streamline the permit process for restoration of Hawaiian fishponds in over thirty years; and

WHEREAS, the restoration and reuse of *loko* i'a provide an opportunity to increase supplies of certain fish which will make Hawaii more food-secure and increase sustainable economic development opportunities for rural communities; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-sixth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2012, the

House of Representatives concurring, that the Department of Land and Natural Resources, Department of Health, and Office of Planning are urged to streamline the permitting process for the restoration of Hawaiian fishponds; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Land and Natural Resources, Department of Health, and Office of Planning, in collaboration with community organizations and Native Hawaiian aquaculturalists, consider the following to facilitate restoration of Hawaiian fishponds:

(1) One master conservation district use application process that applies to all Hawaiian fishponds;

(2) A coastal zone management program consistency statement for Hawaiian fishponds;

(3) Water quality certification for Hawaiian fishponds;

(4) A national pollution discharge elimination system general permit for Hawaiian fishponds; and

(5) Administrative rules to be applied consistently throughout the State; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Land and Natural Resources, Department of Health, and Office of Planning are requested to submit their recommendations and draft legislation for a streamlined permit process for the restoration of Hawaiian fishponds to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2013; and

 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources, Director of Health, and Director of the Office of Planning.