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# SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

ENCOURAGING THE COUNTY OF HAWAII TO CONTINUE NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE PRIVATE LESSEE OF STATE LAND TO MUTUALLY CANCEL THE LEASE OR, ALTERNATIVELY, TO OBTAIN A PUBLIC EASEMENT IN FAVOR OF THE COUNTY TO ALLOW THE COUNTY TO PROCEED WITH ITS PLANS FOR THE WAIMEA TRAILS AND GREENWAYS TRAILHEAD AND COUNTY PARK.

1           WHEREAS, Waimea Trails and Greenways project and the County  
2 of Hawaii seek to acquire 17.6 acres of public land, identified  
3 as Tax Map Key 6-6-001:010 in Lalamilo, to be used as a  
4 trailhead and county park; and

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6           WHEREAS, Waimea Trails and Greenways project and the County  
7 of Hawaii are extremely interested in the subject land, as it  
8 would allow the first phase of the Waimea Trails and Greenways  
9 project to connect to Kawaihae Road at two places; and

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11           WHEREAS, the subject land is currently under lease to a  
12 private party who has indicated that it would be willing to  
13 exchange the subject land for another parcel; and

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15           WHEREAS, the Waimea Trails and Greenways project would  
16 provide an alternative mode of transportation through the town  
17 of Waimea, a safe place of recreation and exercise, and easy  
18 access and enjoyment of public lands and resources; and

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20           WHEREAS, Waimea is in a beautiful setting surrounded by  
21 private land with very limited public access hiking trails; and

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23           WHEREAS, walking and biking in Waimea must be done on a  
24 high-speed cross island highway with heavy truck traffic; and

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26           WHEREAS, the trail effort was begun in 1994 as a community  
27 based Waimea Main Street Project and continues to meet every  
28 Monday to advocate for the trail; in 1995, the County of Hawaii



1 accepted it as a project under the Department of Parks and  
2 Recreation; and

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4 WHEREAS, through community workdays and organizing  
5 volunteers from local schools and other groups, the Waimea  
6 Trails and Greenways Committee has cleared the corridor, removed  
7 fallen trees from the trail way and stream, made wood chips, and  
8 maintained the trail; and

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10 WHEREAS, the trail will connect people to the six schools  
11 in the heart of Waimea, and the trail will also connect  
12 churches, shopping centers, and parks in the urban core; and

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14 WHEREAS, the trail is used by office workers in the  
15 buildings near the trail for exercise, contributing to a healthy  
16 lifestyle, and was used by Tutu's House participants in their  
17 health drive as a safe walking area; and

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19 WHEREAS, owners of non-motorized vehicles will have the  
20 opportunity to leave their car and not pollute the environment;  
21 now, therefore,

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23 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-seventh  
24 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2013, the  
25 House of Representatives concurring, that the County of Hawaii  
26 is urged to continue negotiations with the private lessee of  
27 state land identified as Tax Map Key 6-6-001:010 to mutually  
28 cancel the lease or, alternatively, to obtain a public easement  
29 in favor of the County to allow the County to proceed with its  
30 plans for the Waimea Trails and Greenways trailhead and county  
31 park; and

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33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Land and  
34 Natural Resources is requested to require the County of Hawaii  
35 to indemnify the State for any costs incurred in canceling the  
36 lease; and

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38 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
39 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the  
40 Board of Land and Natural Resources, Mayor of the County of  
41 Hawaii, and Waimea Trails and Greenways.

