
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE AUDITOR TO CONDUCT AN AUDIT OF POLICIES AND
PROCEDURES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS WITH
REGARD TO THE REVOCABLE PERMIT PROGRAM.

1 WHEREAS, passed by Congress and signed into law by
2 President Warren Harding on July 9, 1921, the Hawaiian Homes
3 Commission Act, 1920, provides for the rehabilitation of the
4 native Hawaiian people through a government-sponsored
5 homesteading program; and

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7 WHEREAS, established in 1921 to manage the land trust
8 created by the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act, the Hawaiian Homes
9 Commission, a federal agency, became the Department of Hawaiian
10 Home Lands, a state agency, after Hawaii became a state in 1959;
11 and

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13 WHEREAS, the mission of the Department of Hawaiian Home
14 Lands is to enable native Hawaiians to return to their lands in
15 order to fully support self-sufficiency for native Hawaiians,
16 the self-determination of native Hawaiians, and the preservation
17 of the values, traditions, and culture of native Hawaiians
18 through the administration of the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act;
19 and

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21 WHEREAS, the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands attempts to
22 accomplish this mission through the provision of homestead
23 leases for residential, agricultural, aquacultural, or pastoral
24 purposes thereby providing for the economic self-sufficiency of
25 native Hawaiians through the provision of land; and

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27 WHEREAS, the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands administers
28 and manages a revocable permit program, the intent of which is
29 to increase revenues until the land is ready for homestead
30 development, which makes otherwise unused, undeveloped property



1 available to anyone, including non-native Hawaiians, via month-
2 to-month revocable permits; and

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4 WHEREAS, recent news reports have discovered numerous
5 problems, concerns, and issues with the revocable permit
6 program; and

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8 WHEREAS, given these concerns, an official examination of
9 the revocable permit program under the control of the Department
10 of Hawaiian Home Lands, including verification of accounts,
11 records, contracts, and leases, is warranted; now, therefore,

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13 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
14 Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
15 Session of 2014, the Senate concurring, that the Auditor is
16 requested to conduct an audit of the policies and procedures of
17 the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands with regard to the
18 revocable permit program, in particular, the issuance of
19 contracts and commercial leases; and

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21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the audit include a review of
22 the policies and procedures of the revocable permit program
23 specifically applicable to koa harvesting and cattle calling in
24 the Pohaku region of the Island of Hawaii; and

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26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Auditor submit a report of
27 its findings and recommendations, including any proposed
28 legislation, to the Legislature no later than 20 days prior to
29 the convening of the Regular Session of 2015; and

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31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
32 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Auditor,
33 and Chairperson of the Hawaiian Homes Commission.

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OFFERED BY: Karen Kukua
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