
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A LONG-TERM, RISK-BASED STRATEGY
AND IMPLEMENTATION PLAN TO MITIGATE THE POTENTIAL HARM FROM
COASTAL HAZARDS IN URBAN HONOLULU.

1 WHEREAS, climate change may bring drought, sea level rise,
2 coastal erosion, flooding, coastal storms, a rise in
3 temperature, ocean acidification, and other devastating impacts
4 to the State; and

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6 WHEREAS, global projections point to a sea level rise of
7 one meter or higher by the end of the century; and

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9 WHEREAS, in response to the global sea rise projection and
10 the recent hurricane-related devastation in the the Gulf region
11 and the Eastern seaboard of the United States, a 2014 University
12 of Hawaii Sea Grant College Program study assessed the risk and
13 vulnerability of urban Honolulu to sea level rise and other
14 coastal hazards; and

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16 WHEREAS, urban Honolulu is an area that is heavily
17 populated and generates over \$43,000,000,000 in economic
18 activity annually; and

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20 WHEREAS, sea level rise will significantly increase the
21 impacts of coastal hazards in urban Honolulu, including a
22 pronounced increase in the extent and depth of inundation along
23 the coast; and

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25 WHEREAS, 80 percent of the area's economy, almost half of
26 the population, and a significant portion of the infrastructure
27 and land are at risk of inundation; and

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29 WHEREAS, it is evident that there is a need to develop
30 long-term, risk-based strategies for hazard mitigation to reduce
31 potential harm in urban Honolulu; and
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1 WHEREAS, while the 2014 University of Hawaii Sea Grant
 2 College Program study is not a hazard mitigation plan, the data
 3 and results of the study are beneficial and can serve as a guide
 4 for establishing an adaption and hazard mitigation plan for
 5 urban Honolulu; and



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 7 WHEREAS, coastal hazards in urban Honolulu are unavoidable,
 8 however, the adverse impacts may be reduced through proper
 9 planning; now, therefore,

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 11 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
 12 Twenty-eighth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
 13 Session of 2015, the Senate concurring, that the Hawaii Coastal
 14 Zone Management Program, Hawaii Emergency Management Agency, and
 15 Department of Emergency Management of the City and County of
 16 Honolulu are requested to establish a long-term, risk-based
 17 strategy and implementation plan to mitigate the potential harm
 18 from coastal hazards in urban Honolulu; and

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 20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 21 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Program Manager of
 22 the Hawaii Coastal Zone Management Program, Director of the
 23 Hawaii Emergency Management Agency, and Director of the
 24 Department of Emergency Management of the City and County of
 25 Honolulu.

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OFFERED BY: 

MAR 13 2015

