
HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO CONDUCT A STUDY REGARDING THE FEASIBILITY AND COST OF CONSTRUCTING A SMALL COMMERCIAL BOAT HARBOR AND SMALL COMMERCIAL AIRPORT IN SOUTH PUNA.

1 WHEREAS, Puna, on the Island of Hawaii, is an incredibly
2 large district that is approximately the same size as the island
3 of Kauai; and

4
5 WHEREAS, Puna has the fastest growing population in the
6 County of Hawaii; and

7
8 WHEREAS, Puna, located near the Hawaii Volcanoes National
9 Park, is a popular tourist attraction and destination for
10 ecotourism and personal development opportunities; and

11
12 WHEREAS, many people in Puna will be cut off from supplies
13 and services as a result of the lava threatening to cross
14 Highway 130; and

15
16 WHEREAS, in the Puna area, there are very few places to
17 access the coast safely due to the jagged cliffs, and road
18 infrastructure cannot be developed due to the extensive network
19 of lava tubes; and

20
21 WHEREAS, the Puna coast has the Pohoiki boat ramp, however,
22 the ramp is not large enough to support commercial activity; and

23
24 WHEREAS, Hilo Harbor is the closest commercial harbor to
25 Puna; and

26
27 WHEREAS, the closest commercial airport to Puna is Hilo
28 Airport, a roundtrip that takes approximately six to eight hours
29 to complete; and

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31 WHEREAS, the Department of Transportation Harbors Division,
32 is responsible for the planning, design, construction,
33 operation, and maintenance of state facilities for all modes of
34 water transportation; and



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1
 2 WHEREAS, the Department of Transportation Airports
 3 Division, is responsible for the development, management, and
 4 maintenance of the State's global air transportation
 5 organization; now, therefore,
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7 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
 8 Twenty-eighth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
 9 Session of 2015, that the Department of Transportation is
 10 requested to conduct a study regarding the feasibility and cost
 11 of constructing a small commercial boat harbor and small
 12 commercial airport in south Puna; and
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14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of
 15 Transportation report its findings and recommendations,
 16 including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later
 17 than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session
 18 of 2016; and
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20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this
 21 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Transportation.
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 24

OFFERED BY:

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MAR 13 2015

