
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

DESIGNATING A STATE-OWNED PARCEL OF LAND ADJACENT TO THE FIRST HOME OF PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA AS THE "PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA BIRTHPLACE GARDEN," AND ESTABLISHING A WORKING GROUP TO PLAN APPROPRIATE IMPROVEMENTS TO IDENTIFY AND DIGNIFY THE SITE.

1 WHEREAS, the newspaper birth announcement for Barack Obama,
2 born August 4, 1961, listed his residence as an address on
3 Kalaniana'ole Highway, near Kuli'ou'ou Road; and
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5 WHEREAS, Barack Obama spent most of his childhood and
6 adolescent years in Honolulu, developing character and intellect
7 that encompass a sense of aloha, an appreciation of
8 multiculturalism, and an enlightened global perspective; and
9

10 WHEREAS, in 1999, Barack Obama wrote, "The opportunity that
11 Hawaii offered - to experience a variety of cultures in a
12 climate of mutual respect - became an integral part of my world
13 view, and a basis for the values that I hold most dear;" and
14

15 WHEREAS, Barack Obama once said, "What's best in me, and
16 what's best in my message, is consistent with the tradition of
17 Hawai'i;" and First Lady Michelle Obama has said, "You can't
18 really understand Barack until you understand Hawai'i;" and
19

20 WHEREAS, after moving from Hawai'i upon graduation from high
21 school, Barack Obama maintained close ties with his home state,
22 visiting resident family members and friends on a nearly annual
23 basis to re-experience island activities as a kama'aina, and
24 continuing with annual family Christmas vacations to Hawai'i
25 throughout his years as President; and
26



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1 WHEREAS, the people of Hawai'i, inspired and proud that one
2 of their own could aspire to become President of the United
3 States, cast more than seventy-one percent of their 2008 and
4 2012 presidential ballots for this keiki o ka 'aina, making
5 Hawai'i the state with the greatest victory margin to elect
6 President Obama in the nation; and
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8 WHEREAS, the State of Hawai'i owns a small parcel of land
9 adjacent to the first home of the 44th President of the United
10 States; and
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12 WHEREAS, this historic site is on a route to several East
13 O'ahu attractions, including President Obama's favorites Hanauma
14 Bay and Sandy Beach, as well as the memorial locations of his
15 mother and grandmother, and the site is passed by thousands of
16 residents and visitors every day; now, therefore,
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18 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
19 Twenty-eighth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
20 Session of 2016, the Senate concurring, that the 4,124 square
21 foot State-owned property at 6091 Kalaniana'ole Highway (TMK 3-8-
22 003-055), under the jurisdiction of the Hawaii State Department
23 of Transportation, be designated and established as the
24 "President Barack Obama Birthplace Garden"; and
25

26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Governor is urged to
27 approve this designation by executive order as provided by law;
28 and
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30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a working group be formed by
31 July 1, 2016 to include:
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- 33 (1) Three community members assigned by the Senate
34 President;
- 35 (2) Three community members assigned by the Speaker of the
36 House of Representatives;
- 37 (3) One member each appointed by Neighborhood Boards
38 Number 1 and 2;
- 39 (4) One member each appointed by Neighborhood Boards
40 Number 3 and 4;



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- 1 (4) The member of the Hawaii House of Representatives
- 2 representing House District 18 or the Representative's
- 3 designee;
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- 5 (5) The Hawaii State Senator representing Senate District
- 6 8 or the Senator's designee;
- 7
- 8 (6) The Councilmember representing Honolulu City Council
- 9 District 4 or the Councilmember's designee; and
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- 11 (7) Other members as appointed by the above designated
- 12 members; and
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14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group, which will
 15 serve without remuneration, is requested to organize itself and
 16 develop a plan to appropriately identify and enhance the parcel,
 17 including a plan to cover costs of the improvements using
 18 private as well as public funds, and report its findings and
 19 recommendations to the Legislature no later than twenty days
 20 before the convening of the Regular Session of 2017; and

21
 22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that state and county government
 23 agencies are encouraged to provide assistance and support to
 24 this working group in the accomplishment of its tasks as needed;
 25 and

26
 27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 28 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, the
 29 Director of Transportation, the Mayor of the City and County of
 30 Honolulu, the Chairperson of the Honolulu City Council, and the
 31 Chairpersons of Neighborhood Boards Number 1 and 2.

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