
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING ACTIONS TO RESTORE AND PRESERVE THE KAWAINUI-HĀMĀKUA MARSH COMPLEX AND PREPARATION OF A COMPREHENSIVE WETLANDS ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PLAN, A DETAILED WATERBIRD HABITAT RESTORATION PLAN, AND A COMPREHENSIVE WETLANDS MANAGEMENT PLAN TO PROTECT HAWAII'S FOUR ENDANGERED WATERBIRDS AND VISITING MIGRATORY WATERBIRDS IN THE KAWAINUI-HĀMĀKUA MARSH COMPLEX.

1 WHEREAS, Kawainui Marsh and Hāmākua Marsh share
2 international recognition as biosphere reserve sites under the
3 auspices of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and
4 Cultural Organization and as Wetlands of International
5 Importance under the Ramsar Convention; and
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7 WHEREAS, only a fully restored and functioning Kawainui
8 Marsh, which:
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10 (1) Provides an abundance of habitat and protection for
11 the State's endangered waterbirds and migratory birds;
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13 (2) Has water quality that is as clean and pure as
14 possible and has an adequate water supply to provide a
15 sufficient waterbird habitat and facilitate native
16 goby migration;
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18 (3) Actively protects known archaeological sites and seeks
19 to discover as yet unearthed historical and
20 archaeological sites; and
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22 (4) Provides a secure and safe place to visit,
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24 can host a limited number of people to experience its wonders;
25 and
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1 WHEREAS, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service
 2 prohibits visitors into the wetlands of Campbell National
 3 Wildlife Refuge on Oahu's North Shore during Hawai'i's endangered
 4 waterbirds' nesting seasons; and
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6 WHEREAS, the Department of Land and Natural Resources'
 7 draft management plan for the Kawainui-Hāmākua Marsh Complex
 8 allows almost 10,000 visitors a month into the Kawainui-Hāmākua
 9 Marsh Complex during all twelve months of the year; and
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11 WHEREAS, the Department of Land and Natural Resources'
 12 draft management plan for the Kawainui-Hāmākua Marsh Complex
 13 recommends that the Board of Land and Natural Resources grant
 14 long-term leases of state land to non-profit organizations to
 15 allow these organizations to construct several buildings and
 16 restrooms with septic leach fields adjacent to the wetlands;
 17 now, therefore,
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19 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-ninth
 20 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2018, the
 21 House of Representatives concurring, that the Department of Land
 22 and Natural Resources is urged to prepare a comprehensive
 23 wetlands ecosystem restoration plan, a detailed waterbird
 24 habitat restoration plan, and a comprehensive wetlands
 25 management plan to protect Hawai'i's four endangered waterbirds
 26 and visiting migratory waterbirds in the Kawainui-Hāmākua Marsh
 27 Complex; and
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29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Land and
 30 Natural Resources and the City and County of Honolulu are urged
 31 to work together to restore the natural water flow and volume
 32 through the Kawainui-Hāmākua Marsh Complex and address the
 33 removal of the central peat mat in Kawainui Marsh to prevent
 34 future flooding of the downstream Coconut Grove residential area
 35 in Kailua; and
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37 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Land and
 38 Natural Resources is urged to close the Kawainui-Hāmākua Marsh
 39 Complex to all commercial and recreational activities during the
 40 endangered Hawaiian wetland birds' and migratory wetland birds'
 41 nesting season while continuing to allow Native Hawaiian
 42 traditional and cultural practices during such period; and



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2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Land and Natural
3 Resources is urged to prohibit all restrooms on state land
4 within two thousand feet of the Kawainui-Hāmākua Marsh Complex
5 and on adjacent state land mauka of the wetlands that are not
6 connected to a City and County of Honolulu wastewater treatment
7 facility; and

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9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Land and
10 Natural Resources, Department of Health, and City and County of
11 Honolulu are urged to work together to relocate the Kapa‘a
12 Industrial Park out of the Kawainui-Hāmākua Marsh Complex
13 watershed and to clean up the contaminated soil in Kapa‘a Valley
14 so that the Class One waters in the Kawainui-Hāmākua wetlands
15 are no longer polluted from this source; and

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17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
18 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor,
19 Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources, Director
20 of Health, and Mayor of the City and County of Honolulu.

