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# SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE STATE AUDITOR TO CONDUCT AN AUDIT OF THE  
UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII'S ACTIVITIES RELATED TO MAUNA KEA.

1 WHEREAS, Mauna Kea is the most significant cultural and  
2 astronomical site in the world; and  
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4 WHEREAS, the summit region of Mauna Kea is a spiritual and  
5 special place of global significance that is home to cultural  
6 landscapes, fragile alpine habitats, and historical and  
7 archaeological treasures, as well as endemic species found  
8 nowhere else on the planet; and  
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10 WHEREAS, the protection and preservation of Mauna Kea  
11 through proper management and stewardship is of statewide  
12 concern; and  
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14 WHEREAS, since 1998, four audits by the State Auditor have  
15 been critical of the management, stewardship, and protection of  
16 Mauna Kea; and  
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18 WHEREAS, although significant changes have occurred on  
19 Mauna Kea since the 1998 audit, negative experiences over the  
20 past fifty years have eroded public confidence and demonstrated  
21 the critical need for an audit to look into the University of  
22 Hawaii's activities related to Mauna Kea; now, therefore,  
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24 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-ninth  
25 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2018, the  
26 House of Representatives concurring, that the State Auditor is  
27 requested to conduct an audit of the University of Hawaii's  
28 activities related to Mauna Kea; and  
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30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the audit include the  
31 following:  
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- 1 (1) A financial audit of the Office of Mauna Kea  
2 Management, reviewing all revenues and expenditures,  
3 the Mauna Kea lands management special fund,  
4 commercial tour operations, and all appropriations  
5 from the University of Hawaii at Hilo for operations  
6 and staffing for the period of 2010 through 2017;  
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- 8 (2) A performance audit of the Research Corporation of the  
9 University of Hawaii, as it relates to the Mauna Kea  
10 observatory support services, the Mauna Kea  
11 observatories, and all grants, revenues, expenditures,  
12 and funding of personnel for those support services  
13 and observatories, including an evaluation of the  
14 corporation's efficiency and whether or not the  
15 corporation is effectively utilizing best practice  
16 operations;  
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- 18 (3) A performance audit of the University of Hawaii  
19 system, limited to its legal affairs and the  
20 university general counsel office, as it relates to:  
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- 22 (A) All revenues and expenditures since 2010  
23 associated with the research and training  
24 revolving fund, with respect to Mauna Kea; and  
25
- 26 (B) Patents for scientific technologies associated  
27 with the international observatories and the  
28 University of Hawaii Institute for Astronomy as a  
29 result of ground-based astronomical observations  
30 and discoveries; and  
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- 32 (4) An organizational management structure audit of the  
33 multiple governmental and non-governmental agencies  
34 and entities that have jurisdictional authority over  
35 Mauna Kea, including an evaluation of their efficiency  
36 and whether or not they are effectively utilizing best  
37 practice operations and have clear lines of authority;  
38 and  
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40 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the State Auditor submit a  
41 report of its findings and any recommendations, including any



1 proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty  
2 days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2020; and  
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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
5 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the State Auditor, Chair  
6 of the Board of Regents of the University of Hawaii, President  
7 of the University of Hawaii, Vice President of Legal Affairs of  
8 the University of Hawaii, Office of the University General  
9 Counsel, Chair of the Board of Directors of the Research  
10 Corporation of the University of Hawaii, Director of the Office  
11 of Mauna Kea Management, and Chairperson of the Department of  
12 Physics and Astronomy at the University of Hawaii at Hilo.  
Report Title:

