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# SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

SUPPORTING THE PURCHASE, PRESERVATION, AND RESTORATION OF  
AGRICULTURAL AND CONSERVATION LANDS IN MAUNAWILI VALLEY,  
O'AHU, AND URGING VARIOUS FEDERAL, STATE, AND COUNTY  
ENTITIES TO ACQUIRE AND PROTECT IMPORTANT ANCIENT AND  
HISTORIC SITES AND TRAILS AND WATERS IN MAUNAWILI VALLEY.

1           WHEREAS, Maunawili Valley in the ahupua'a (land division) of  
2 Kailua is celebrated in story and chant for its association with  
3 akua (gods), ali'i (chiefs), cultural heroes, and important  
4 historical figures, including Queen Lili'uokalani; and  
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6           WHEREAS, Maunawili Valley contains wetlands, streams, and  
7 freshwater springs that provide most of the water that flows to  
8 the Kawainui Marsh ecosystem, and more than fifty springs and  
9 smaller streams, including Maunawili Stream, the most  
10 significant stream in the Kailua ahupua'a; and  
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12           WHEREAS, ancient and historic sites throughout Maunawili  
13 Valley include heiau (temple or sacred site), sacred stones,  
14 petroglyphs, Hawaiian burials, alanui (path or trail), house  
15 sites, grinding stones, irrigated and dryland agricultural  
16 terraces, large 'auwai (irrigation ditches) related to extensive  
17 lo'i (taro patches), and nineteenth and early twentieth century  
18 structures related to agriculture and food production; and  
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20           WHEREAS, Kawainui Marsh is a designated Ramsar Wetland of  
21 International Importance, and the 1994 Kawai Nui Marsh Master  
22 Plan recommended that the State acquire the privately-owned  
23 wetland and semi-wetland areas in Maunawili, noting that they  
24 are hydrologically part of the economic, ecological, and  
25 cultural resources of Kawainui Marsh, separated only by the  
26 highway, and that acquisition would "protect the wetlands from  
27 future undesired developments" and inappropriate alteration of  
28 the landscape and waterways; and



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 2 WHEREAS, there is a need to protect and conserve the  
 3 Maunawili wetlands and semi-wetlands; Maunawili's Hanalei soil,  
 4 which is the most fertile soil in Hawai'i; fresh water resources;  
 5 ancient and historic sites; and historic trails within the vital  
 6 context of agricultural sustainability; and

7  
 8 WHEREAS, there is also a need to provide managed and  
 9 restricted access to the State's Maunawili and Olomana Trails in  
 10 proximity to Maunawili's historic wetland and semi-wetland areas  
 11 and the Queen's Retreat; and

12  
 13 WHEREAS, there is a long history of public interest in  
 14 acquiring and protecting lands in Maunawili, but the State has  
 15 not been able to secure these Maunawili lands, which remain  
 16 privately owned; and

17  
 18 WHEREAS, HRT Realty, LLC, owner of more than one thousand  
 19 acres in Maunawili, including the majority of the biocultural  
 20 resources noted above and the Royal Hawaiian Golf Course, is  
 21 moving forward on plans to subdivide and eventually sell its  
 22 Maunawili lands; and

23  
 24 WHEREAS, HRT Realty, LLC, expressed an interest in selling  
 25 its Maunawili lands, or a significant portion thereof, to the  
 26 Department of Land and Natural Resources and Department of  
 27 Agriculture, working in partnership with The Trust for Public  
 28 Land, Hui Maunawili-Kawainui, and Kailua community, and Hui  
 29 Maunawili-Kawainui members have met with representatives of HRT  
 30 Realty, LLC, and are now working in partnership with The Trust  
 31 for Public Land to identify ways to acquire HRT Realty, LLC,  
 32 properties in Maunawili; and

33  
 34 WHEREAS, Hui Maunawili-Kawainui is a group of descendants  
 35 and residents of Maunawili and Kailua who represent a coalition  
 36 of respected Hawaiian cultural and environmental organizations,  
 37 who have joined together to protect prime agricultural and  
 38 culturally significant lands in Maunawili; and

39  
 40 WHEREAS, Hui Maunawili-Kawainui seeks to restore the health  
 41 of Maunawili so that the valley can resume its vital and  
 42 traditional role in the ahupua'a of Kailua as a source of free-



1 flowing fresh water and a place of abundant agriculture and rich  
2 cultural resources; and

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4 WHEREAS, The Trust for Public Land is a national nonprofit  
5 organization that has helped protect lands throughout Hawai'i;  
6 and

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8 WHEREAS, the Governor has declared a state goal to double  
9 local food production by 2020, which is in line with Maunawili's  
10 legacy as historically fertile ground for the production of food  
11 crops; and

12  
13 WHEREAS, Hui Maunawili-Kawainui has met with numerous state  
14 and county officials and elected representatives to express the  
15 need to protect and preserve the Maunawili lands and to seek  
16 both institutional and financial support toward that end; and

17  
18 WHEREAS, this is a rare opportunity to secure Maunawili's  
19 irreplaceable resources for the health and welfare of the people  
20 of Hawai'i today and for future generations; now, therefore,

21  
22 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-ninth  
23 Legislature of the State of Hawai'i, Regular Session of 2018, the  
24 House of Representatives concurring, that this body supports the  
25 purchase, preservation, and restoration of agricultural and  
26 conservation lands in Maunawili Valley, Oahu, and the protection  
27 and preservation of important ancient and historic sites and  
28 trails and waters in Maunawili; and

29  
30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this body commends HRT Realty,  
31 LLC; Hui Maunawili-Kawainui; and The Trust for Public Land for  
32 taking collaborative, voluntary action toward a possible  
33 conservation purchase of the HRT Realty, LLC, Maunawili lands;  
34 and

35  
36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this body believes that it is  
37 in the best interest of the people of the State to bring to  
38 fruition a larger, community-based vision of restoring Maunawili  
39 to its vital and traditional role in the ahupua'a of Kailua as a  
40 source of free-flowing fresh water and place of abundant  
41 agriculture and rich cultural resources; and

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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this body urges the Department  
2 of Land and Natural Resources, Department of Agriculture, and  
3 other relevant state entities, as well as the City and County of  
4 Honolulu and the Hawai'i congressional delegation, to work with  
5 The Trust for Public Land and Hui Maunawili-Kawainui in their  
6 efforts to acquire these important and rich agricultural,  
7 cultural, and historic lands; and  
8

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
10 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor,  
11 Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources,  
12 Chairperson of the Board of Agriculture, Mayor of the City and  
13 County of Honolulu, Chairperson of the Honolulu City Council,  
14 Honolulu City Councilmember for the Third District, Chairperson  
15 of the Board of Trustees of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs,  
16 members of the Hawai'i congressional delegation, Director of The  
17 Trust for Public Land's Hawaiian Islands Program, and Board  
18 members of Hui Maunawili-Kawainui.

