

MAR. 01 2018

SENATE RESOLUTION

URGING THE COUNTY OF HAWAI'I TO PRIORITIZE INFRASTRUCTURE
IMPROVEMENTS TO WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT THROUGH A
COMPREHENSIVE STUDY FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT,
INFRASTRUCTURE, SUSTAINABILITY, EDUCATION, AND PUBLIC
POLICY.

1 WHEREAS, Hawai'i has limited resources, space, and carrying
2 capacity; and

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4 WHEREAS, Hawai'i has made progress in energy and food
5 security but still relies upon foreign fossil fuel for eighty
6 percent of its energy generation and imports a majority of its
7 food supply; and

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9 WHEREAS, there is a moral obligation and real
10 responsibility to act as good stewards of the land and its
11 unique flora and fauna for the current and future generations;
12 and

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14 WHEREAS, protection of our natural environment and natural
15 resources benefits and sustains the State's economy, residents'
16 health and well-being, and enjoyment of open spaces, parks, and
17 trails; and

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19 WHEREAS, the definition of sustainability is "development
20 that meets the needs of the present without compromising the
21 ability of future generations to meet their own needs"; and

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23 WHEREAS, traditional Hawaiian society was able to sustain a
24 thriving population with advanced agriculture and aquaculture
25 and wise management of land and natural resources; and

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27 WHEREAS, global climate change presents an urgent threat to
28 the Hawaiian islands through sea level rise, ocean
29 acidification, coral bleaching, drought, flooding, temperature
30 changes, species extinction, infectious disease, and other



1 impacts that increase risk from deferred maintenance on old
2 infrastructure; and

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4 WHEREAS, in response to Act 125, Session Laws of Hawaii
5 2017, the Department of Health produced a report to the twenty-
6 ninth Legislature related to cesspools and prioritization for
7 replacement; and

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9 WHEREAS, the report revealed that there is a need for
10 corresponding research to assess current wastewater
11 infrastructure in the County of Hawai'i; and

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13 WHEREAS, while the wastewater industry has evolved to using
14 natural systems that drive operational savings and operational
15 results beyond permit compliance, the Hilo wastewater plant
16 infrastructure is over twenty years old and uses traditional
17 wastewater treatment processes; and

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19 WHEREAS, for any significant modifications to the current
20 wastewater management system, the County of Hawai'i needs to
21 conduct a feasibility study; and

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23 WHEREAS, a technical feasibility study and an
24 infrastructure evaluation must be focused on cost-effective
25 finance options, including leveraging private sector investment,
26 energy efficiency, renewable energy, and nutrient resource
27 recovery for potential energy generation, land and soil
28 regeneration, and other new business opportunities; now,
29 therefore,

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31 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-ninth
32 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2018,
33 that the County of Hawai'i is urged to prioritize infrastructure
34 improvements to wastewater management through a comprehensive
35 study for economic development, infrastructure, sustainability,
36 education, and public policy; and

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38 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study find ways to maximize
39 current investment in wastewater systems and all modern and more
40 cost-effective technical and financial models that improve
41 operations, performance, and cost; and

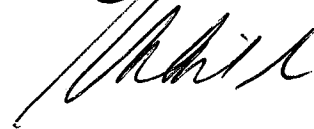
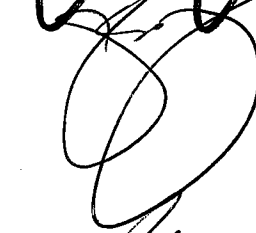
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S.R. NO. 19

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
2 Resolution be transmitted to the Mayor of the County of Hawai'i,
3 Chairperson of the Hawai'i County Council, and Director of the
4 Department of Environmental Management for the County of Hawai'i.
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OFFERED BY:



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