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## HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE UNITED STATES ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, TO DEVELOP A COMPREHENSIVE PLAN TO REGULARLY DRAIN AND CLEAR STREAMS AND CANALS THAT FLOW IN RESIDENTIAL AREAS IN WAIHAOLE, HALEIWA, WAIALUA, KANEOHE, AND OTHER KOOLAULOA COMMUNITIES.

1 WHEREAS, streams and canals on the island of Oahu have not  
2 been maintained, which causes significant damage to property and  
3 risks loss of life during heavy rains; and  
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5 WHEREAS, as a result of recent heavy rainfall that caused  
6 flooding in certain parts of Oahu, residents of Haleiwa and  
7 Waialua were not given sufficient warning to evacuate the area,  
8 which could have resulted in catastrophic loss of life; and  
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10 WHEREAS, the guidance for evacuation of areas like Haleiwa  
11 and Waialua was confusing, leaving residents trapped in their  
12 homes and unsure what to do, even after the flooding subsided;  
13 and  
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15 WHEREAS, residents of Koolauloa continue to struggle to  
16 dispose of debris and mud from recent flooding and have not  
17 received any assistance from county or state government; and  
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19 WHEREAS, without regular cleaning, human-made and natural  
20 debris and sediment can accumulate in drainage canals and  
21 streams, creating dams that block the canals and streams; and  
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23 WHEREAS, according to the Federal Emergency Management  
24 Agency, a blocked drainage canal increases the risk of frequent  
25 overbank flooding; and  
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27 WHEREAS, the lack of regular cleaning of drainage canals  
28 and streams increases the risk of flooding in surrounding homes;  
29 now, therefore,



1 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
2 Thirty-first Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
3 of 2021, that the City and County of Honolulu, in conjunction  
4 with the United States Army Corps of Engineers, is requested to  
5 develop a comprehensive plan to regularly drain and clear  
6 streams and canals that flow in residential areas in Waiahole,  
7 Haleiwa, Waialua, Kaneohe, and other Koolauloa communities; and  
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9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hawaii Emergency Management  
10 Agency and Department of Emergency Management of the City and  
11 County of Honolulu are requested to improve the flash flood  
12 warning system; and  
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14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City and County of  
15 Honolulu, in conjunction with the United States Army Corps of  
16 Engineers, is requested to create a comprehensive action plan  
17 for each Council district to mitigate the impacts of flooding  
18 and hurricanes; and  
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20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Honolulu Police Department,  
21 Honolulu Fire Department, and Department of Emergency Management  
22 of the City and County of Honolulu are requested to coordinate  
23 more closely to ensure that residents have safe evacuation  
24 routes in the event of flooding; and  
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26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
27 Resolution be transmitted to the Adjutant General, Mayor of the  
28 City and County of Honolulu, Director of the Department of  
29 Emergency Management of the City and County of Honolulu, Chief  
30 of Police of the Honolulu Police Department, and Fire Chief of  
31 the Honolulu Fire Department.

