

MAR 12 2021

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE GOVERNOR, THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, AND THE
COUNTIES TO PROTECT AGRICULTURAL LANDS FROM DEVELOPMENT.

1 WHEREAS, lands zoned as agricultural districts allow for
2 the limited use of accessory agribusiness activities, which are
3 business activities that are accessory and incidental to the
4 primary agricultural use of the land; and

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6 WHEREAS, some landowners or lessees of lands zoned as
7 agricultural districts have been permitted to install zip lines
8 and to conduct mountain bike tours under the auspices of
9 accessory agribusiness activities; and

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11 WHEREAS, accessory agribusiness activities displace land
12 that would have been used for bonafide agricultural use or
13 encourage others to purchase or lease agricultural lands and use
14 them for purposes unrelated to agriculture; and

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16 WHEREAS, prospective farmers are facing increasing
17 difficulties in obtaining prime agricultural lands devoted to
18 growing crops, particularly in Laie on the island of Oahu; and

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20 WHEREAS, in 2016, Governor David Ige announced the goal to
21 double Hawaii's food production by the year 2020; and

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23 WHEREAS, while Hawaii did not meet the goal of doubling
24 food production by 2020 and Governor Ige postponed the target
25 date to 2030, the need for Hawaii to produce its own food
26 remains and with it, the need to protect agricultural lands from
27 other uses; and

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29 WHEREAS, doubling Hawaii's food production by 2030 will
30 require increasing the State's inventory of former pineapple and
31 sugarcane lands, working with farmers to increase their
32 productivity, maintaining food safety standards, and guarding
33 against invasive species; now, therefore,



S.C.R. NO. 131

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BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-first Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2021, the House of Representatives concurring, that the State is urged to protect from development agricultural lands and other lands appropriate for agricultural so that the State can meet the goal of doubling food production by the year 2030; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor; the Chairperson of the Board of Agriculture; the Chairpersons of the Planning Commissions of the County of Maui, the County of Kauai, and the City and County of Honolulu; the Chairperson of the Windward Planning Commission of the County of Hawaii; and the Chairperson of the Leeward Planning Commission of the County of Hawaii.

OFFERED BY:

Kurt Fessler

