

MAR 12 2021

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THAT EACH EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT IDENTIFY DEPARTMENTAL FACILITIES THAT MAY BE VULNERABLE TO FLOODING AND OTHER IMPACTS OF SEA LEVEL RISE AND ASSESS OPTIONS FOR MITIGATING THE EFFECTS OF SEA LEVEL RISE ON THOSE FACILITIES.

1 WHEREAS, climate change and sea level rise pose
2 significant, dangerous, and imminent threats to public safety
3 and the State's social and economic wellbeing, natural resources
4 and environments, cultural resources, property, infrastructure,
5 and governmental functions; and

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7 WHEREAS, low-income and otherwise vulnerable communities
8 will likely be disproportionately impacted by climate change and
9 sea level rise; and

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11 WHEREAS, due to climate change, the chronic impacts of sea
12 level rise, including coastal erosion, high tide flooding, and
13 annual high wave flooding, are already impacting many low-lying
14 coastal areas, and are predicted to increase in frequency and
15 severity in the coming decades; and

16
17 WHEREAS, climate change and sea level rise will exacerbate
18 the impacts of disaster events, including hurricanes, tsunamis,
19 and other extreme rainfall and high-wave events; and

20
21 WHEREAS, in a 2017 report, the United States National
22 Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration projected that 3.2 feet
23 of global mean sea level rise will occur by 2100 in an
24 "intermediate" scenario and could occur as early as the 2060's
25 in an "extreme" scenario; and

26
27 WHEREAS, the Hawaii Climate Change Mitigation and
28 Adaptation Commission's Hawaii Sea Level Rise Vulnerability and
29 Adaptation Report, the University of Hawaii's Pacific Islands
30 Ocean Observing System, and the Office of Planning's Hawaii
31 statewide GIS program all provide relevant and best-available



1 scientific assessment data showing the predicted effects to the
2 State's coastal areas of exposure to sea level rise; and

3
4 WHEREAS, the State of Hawaii Hazard Mitigation Plan
5 provides an expanded assessment of the natural hazards and
6 potential impacts of disaster events related to climate change
7 and sea level rise; and

8
9 WHEREAS, both the Hawaii Sea Level Rise Vulnerability and
10 Adaptation Report and State of Hawaii Hazard Mitigation Plan are
11 consistent with the latest and best available sea level rise
12 projections, including the United States National Oceanic and
13 Atmospheric Administration's 2017 report, and serve as key
14 references for the State in assessing vulnerabilities and
15 developing actions to improve resilience to the impacts of sea
16 level rise and extreme climate events; now, therefore,

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18 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-first
19 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2021, the
20 House of Representatives concurring, that each executive
21 department is requested to:

- 22
23 (1) Identify existing and planned departmental facilities,
24 including critical infrastructure facilities, that are
25 vulnerable to flooding and other impacts of sea level
26 rise using relevant natural hazard data and
27 projections and map data from the most recent versions
28 of, or updates to, the Hawaii Sea Level Rise
29 Vulnerability and Adaptation Report and State of
30 Hawaii Hazard Mitigation Plan to make these
31 identifications;
32
33 (2) Assess options for mitigating the impacts of sea level
34 rise to existing and planned departmental facilities,
35 including flood-proofing and relocating the
36 facilities, especially those facilities located in
37 areas in which the conservation of beaches and coastal
38 environments is desired; provided that the executive
39 departments are also requested to:
40



- 1 (A) Coordinate resiliency actions with the
- 2 appropriate county and federal agencies, affected
- 3 communities, and the private sector; and
- 4
- 5 (B) Include in the departments' planning and
- 6 investment decisions consideration of sea level
- 7 rise adaptation and flooding and disaster
- 8 resilience; identify and consider potential risks
- 9 created by climate change; and employ full life-
- 10 cycle cost accounting to evaluate and compare
- 11 facility investments and alternatives; provided
- 12 that:
- 13
- 14 (i) Priority should be given to nature-based
- 15 disaster resilience, climate change
- 16 adaptation solutions, and actions that
- 17 enhance disaster resilience and climate
- 18 change adaptation efforts; and
- 19
- 20 (ii) Actions taken should protect the State's
- 21 most vulnerable populations; and
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23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that each department is requested to

24 submit a report to the Governor, Legislature, and Hawaii Climate

25 Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission no later than twenty

26 days prior to the convening of each regular session; and

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28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that each department is requested to

29 include in its report vulnerability and adaptation assessments

30 for the department's facilities and updates on the department's

31 progress in implementing the department's plans, programs, and

32 capital improvement decisions regarding sea level rise and

33 disaster resiliency; and

34

35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that each executive department may

36 designate employees of that department who possess relevant

37 expertise to be responsible for engaging in capacity-building

38 efforts within the department and collaborating with the Hawaii

39 Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission to improve

40 interagency coordination for sea level rise adaptation and

41 flooding and disaster resilience; and

42

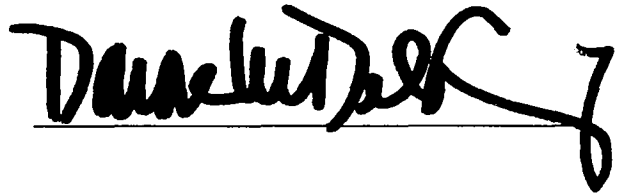


S.C.R. NO. 162

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
2 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor;
3 Comptroller; Chairperson of the Board of Agriculture; Attorney
4 General; Director of Finance; Director of Business, Economic
5 Development, and Tourism; Director of Commerce and Consumer
6 Affairs; Adjutant General; Chairperson of the Board of
7 Education; Superintendent of Education; Chairperson of the
8 Hawaiian Homes Commission; Director of Health; Director of Human
9 Resources Development; Director of Human Services; Director of
10 Labor and Industrial Relations; Chairperson of the Board of Land
11 and Natural Resources; Director of Public Safety; Director of
12 Taxation; Director of Transportation; and Co-Chairpersons of the
13 Hawaii Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission.

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OFFERED BY:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Daniel J. Delaney", written over a horizontal line.