

MAR 12 2021

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU TO ADOPT A STREAMLINED PERMITTING PROCESS LIKE HOALA LOKO IA FOR THE RESTORATION, REPAIR, MAINTENANCE, AND RECONSTRUCTION OF TRADITIONAL HAWAIIAN FISHPOND SYSTEMS UNDER ITS JURISDICTION.

1 WHEREAS, in June 1989, the Hawaiian Fishpond Study for the
2 islands of Oahu, Molokai, and Hawaii, which was prepared for the
3 Hawaii Coastal Zone Management Program, found, in part, that
4 complex regulatory procedures and processes for permits in the
5 coastal zone inhibit the use of traditional Hawaiian fishpond
6 systems in the State; and

7
8 WHEREAS, in November 2012, traditional native Hawaiian
9 practitioners at the Fishpond Conference issued a declaration
10 that called for the development of a state programmatic general
11 permit and streamlined permitting process for the restoration,
12 protection, preservation, perpetuation, traditional and
13 customary use and/or maintenance of loko i'a (traditional
14 Hawaiian fishpond systems) and their related biocultural
15 resources and habitats across Hawaii, stating, in part, that:

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17 (1) Loko i'a are unique sustainable aquaculture systems
18 found nowhere else in the world;
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20 (2) Loko i'a can significantly contribute to healthy and
21 sustainable food security and food sovereignty in
22 Hawaii;
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24 (3) Loko i'a can also play a role in mitigating the local
25 impacts of sea level rise and coastal inundation;
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27 (4) Loko i'a are critical and essential sites of learning,
28 traditional and ancestral knowledge, STEM (science,
29 technology, engineering, and math) education, cultural
30 practice, healthy physical activity, and community
31 fellowship; and



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2 (5) The restoration and reuse of loko i'a provide an
3 opportunity to increase community-based sustainable
4 economic development opportunities; and
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6 WHEREAS, the Department of Land and Natural Resources
7 through the Office of Conservation and Coastal Lands is
8 responsible for regulating and permitting land uses in
9 conservation districts; and
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11 WHEREAS, in January 2015, the Department of Land and
12 Natural Resources released a streamlined permitting process for
13 restoration, repair, maintenance, and operation of loko i'a
14 called Ho'āla Loko I'a; and
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16 WHEREAS, in July 2015, Governor David Ige also prioritized
17 and facilitated the repair and restoration of loko i'a by signing
18 Act 230, Session Laws of Hawaii 2015, which waives the need to
19 obtain water quality certifications for loko i'a restoration
20 projects that receive notice of authorization through the Ho'āla
21 Loko I'a permitting process; and
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23 WHEREAS, Ho'āla Loko I'a allows most of the various permits
24 required for the repair and restoration of loko i'a, such as
25 those for dredging, wall repair, and removal of invasive
26 species, to fall under one Master Conservation District Use
27 Permit; and
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29 WHEREAS, the State classifies its land into districts based
30 on their different uses, such as conservation, agricultural,
31 urban, and rural; and
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33 WHEREAS, the counties of the State are responsible for
34 regulating and permitting land uses in agricultural, urban, and
35 rural districts; and
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37 WHEREAS, although the permitting process for loko i'a has
38 been streamlined, Ho'āla Loko I'a is a state-run program and the
39 jurisdiction of the Department of Land and Natural Resources
40 only covers conservation districts, therefore this streamlined



1 process can only apply to the loko i'a in conservation districts;
2 and
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4 WHEREAS, the loko i'a on Oahu that exist outside of
5 conservation districts are under the jurisdiction of the City
6 and County of Honolulu; and
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8 WHEREAS, because Ho'āla Loko I'a was developed to be
9 consistent with various county coastal zone management
10 regulations, traditional native Hawaiian practitioners should be
11 able to use a streamlined process like Ho'āla Loko I'a to secure
12 any county permits necessary for loko i'a restoration projects;
13 now, therefore,
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15 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-first
16 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2021, the
17 House of Representatives concurring, that the City and County of
18 Honolulu is urged to adopt a streamlined permitting process like
19 Ho'āla Loko I'a for the restoration, repair, maintenance, and
20 reconstruction of loko i'a located in areas under its
21 jurisdiction; and
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23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
24 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Mayor of the City
25 and County of Honolulu, nine members of the Honolulu City
26 Council, and Director of the Honolulu Department of Planning and
27 Permitting.
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OFFERED BY:

