

MAR 12 2021

SENATE 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
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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
32 scientific assessment data showing the predicted effects to the
33 State's coastal areas of exposure to sea level rise; and
34



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

5
6 WHEREAS, both the Hawaii Sea Level Rise Vulnerability and
7 Adaptation Report and State of Hawaii Hazard Mitigation Plan are
8 consistent with the latest and best available sea level rise
9 projections, including the United States National Oceanic and
10 Atmospheric Administration's 2017 report, and serve as key
11 references for the State in assessing vulnerabilities and
12 developing actions to improve resilience to the impacts of sea
13 level rise and extreme climate events; now, therefore,

14
15 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-first
16 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2021,
17 that each executive department is requested to:

18
19 (1) Identify existing and planned departmental facilities,
20 including critical infrastructure facilities, that are
21 vulnerable to flooding and other impacts of sea level
22 rise using relevant natural hazard data and
23 projections and map data from the most recent versions
24 of, or updates to, the Hawaii Sea Level Rise
25 Vulnerability and Adaptation Report and State of
26 Hawaii Hazard Mitigation Plan to make these
27 identifications;

28
29 (2) Assess options for mitigating the impacts of sea level
30 rise to existing and planned departmental facilities,
31 including flood-proofing and relocating the
32 facilities, especially those facilities located in
33 areas in which the conservation of beaches and coastal
34 environments is desired; provided that the executive
35 departments are also requested to:

36
37 (A) Coordinate resiliency actions with the
38 appropriate county and federal agencies, affected
39 communities, and the private sector; and

40
41 (B) Include in the departments' planning and
42 investment decisions consideration of sea level



1 rise adaptation and flooding and disaster
2 resilience; identify and consider potential risks
3 created by climate change; and employ full life-
4 cycle cost accounting to evaluate and compare
5 facility investments and alternatives; provided
6 that:

7
8 (i) Priority should be given to nature-based
9 disaster resilience, climate change
10 adaptation solutions, and actions that
11 enhance disaster resilience and climate
12 change adaptation efforts; and

13
14 (ii) Actions taken should protect the State's
15 most vulnerable populations; and
16

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that each department is requested to
18 submit a report to the Governor, Legislature, and Hawaii Climate
19 Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission no later than twenty
20 days prior to the convening of each regular session; and
21

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that each department is requested to
23 include in its report vulnerability and adaptation assessments
24 for the department's facilities and updates on the department's
25 progress in implementing the department's plans, programs, and
26 capital improvement decisions regarding sea level rise and
27 disaster resiliency; and
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29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that each executive department may
30 designate employees of that department who possess relevant
31 expertise to be responsible for engaging in capacity-building
32 efforts within the department and collaborating with the Hawaii
33 Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission to improve
34 interagency coordination for sea level rise adaptation and
35 flooding and disaster resilience; and
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37 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
38 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor; Comptroller;
39 Chairperson of the Board of Agriculture; Attorney General;
40 Director of Finance; Director of Business, Economic Development,
41 and Tourism; Director of Commerce and Consumer Affairs; Adjutant
42 General; Chairperson of the Board of Education; Superintendent

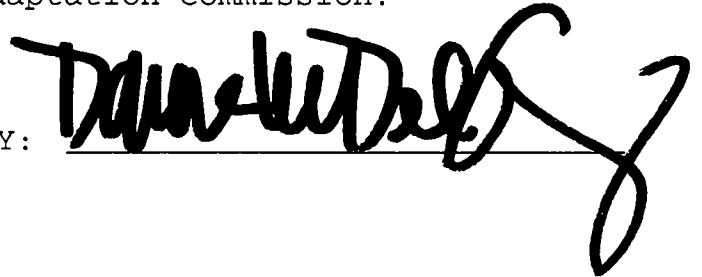


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1 of Education; Chairperson of the Hawaiian Homes Commission;
2 Director of Health; Director of Human Resources Development;
3 Director of Human Services; Director of Labor and Industrial
4 Relations; Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural
5 Resources; Director of Public Safety; Director of Taxation;
6 Director of Transportation; and Co-Chairpersons of the Hawaii
7 Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission.

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OFFERED BY: _____

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, written over a horizontal line. The signature is cursive and appears to be the name of the person offering the bill.