

MAR 10 2023

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# SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE AUDITOR TO CONDUCT A PERFORMANCE AUDIT OF ALL THE PROGRAMS WITHIN THE STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION DIVISION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES.

1           WHEREAS, the Department of Land and Natural Resources'  
2 State Historic Preservation Division serves to protect and  
3 preserve historic properties significant to Hawaii's history  
4 through several program areas; and

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6           WHEREAS, the State Historic Preservation Division has  
7 indicated that it has faced challenges with insufficient  
8 staffing and funding, which hinder its ability to carry out its  
9 important duties and responsibilities in a timely manner; and

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11           WHEREAS, under section 23-5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, the  
12 Auditor may examine and inspect all accounts, books, records,  
13 files, papers, and documents and all financial affairs of every  
14 department, office, agency, and political subdivision;  
15 now, therefore,

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17           BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-second  
18 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2023, the  
19 House of Representatives concurring, that the Auditor is  
20 requested to conduct a performance audit of all the programs  
21 within the State Historic Preservation Division of the  
22 Department of Land and Natural Resources; and

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24           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the performance audit is  
25 requested to include but not be limited to:

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27           (1) Whether the State Historic Preservation Division has  
28 adequate staffing and resources to conduct timely  
29 project reviews;  
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- 1 (2) An evaluation of whether the review and response to
- 2 submittals is completed within the timeframes
- 3 established by rule;
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- 5 (3) Current project review practices, including efforts to
- 6 identify categorical exemptions; historic properties
- 7 and districts that should have special protections or
- 8 treatment; identification of types of sites that do
- 9 not require permit review; filing systems; and efforts
- 10 to streamline processes such as the discovery process
- 11 for burial sites;
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- 13 (4) Record retention methodologies;
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- 15 (5) Standardization of monitoring protocols, including the
- 16 establishment of cultural impact assessment guidance;
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- 18 (6) The actions, initiatives, and performance of the State
- 19 Historic Preservation Division to address the existing
- 20 project review backlog; and
- 21
- 22 (7) Any recommended improvements, including proposed
- 23 legislation, to update, redefine or realign the State
- 24 Historic Preservation Division's mission and
- 25 organization based on balancing cultural and historic
- 26 preservation with the State's evolving land
- 27 development needs; and
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29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Auditor shall submit a  
 30 report of its findings and recommendations, including any  
 31 proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty  
 32 days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2024; and  
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34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
 35 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Auditor, Chairperson  
 36 of the Board of Land and Natural Resources, and Administrator of  
 37 the State Historic Preservation Division.  
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OFFERED BY: *Francis G. Sawyer*

