

MAR 10 2023

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## SENATE 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,  
19 that the Auditor is requested to conduct a performance audit of  
20 all the programs within the State Historic Preservation Division  
21 of the Department of Land and Natural Resources; and  
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23           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the performance audit is  
24 requested to include but not be limited to:  
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26           (1) Whether the State Historic Preservation Division has  
27 adequate staffing and resources to conduct timely  
28 project reviews;  
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30           (2) An evaluation of whether the review and response to  
31 submittals is completed within the timeframes  
32 established by rule;  
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34           (3) Current project review practices, including efforts to  
35 identify categorical exemptions; historic properties



1 and districts that should have special protections or  
2 treatment; identification of types of sites that do  
3 not require permit review; filing systems; and efforts  
4 to streamline processes such as the discovery process  
5 for burial sites;

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7 (4) Record retention methodologies;

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9 (5) Standardization of monitoring protocols, including the  
10 establishment of cultural impact assessment guidance;

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12 (6) The actions, initiatives, and performance of the State  
13 Historic Preservation Division to address the existing  
14 project review backlog; and

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16 (7) Any recommended improvements, including proposed  
17 legislation, to update, redefine or realign the State  
18 Historic Preservation Division's mission and  
19 organization based on balancing cultural and historic  
20 preservation with the State's evolving land  
21 development needs; and

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23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Auditor shall submit a  
24 report of its findings and recommendations, including any  
25 proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty  
26 days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2024; and

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28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
29 Resolution be transmitted to the Auditor, Chairperson of the  
30 Board of Land and Natural Resources, and Administrator of the  
31 State Historic Preservation Division.

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34 OFFERED BY:

