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# SENATE RESOLUTION

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REQUESTING THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT MANOA COLLEGE OF TROPICAL AGRICULTURE AND HUMAN RESOURCES TO CONVENE A WORKING GROUP TO EVALUATE UPDATING ITS COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SITES AND TO SUBMIT A REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE REGARDING ITS WORK.

1           WHEREAS, the University of Hawaii at Manoa College of  
2 Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources (CTAHR) oversees the  
3 management of eighteen agricultural research stations  
4 distributed across the islands of Kauai, Oahu, Maui, Molokai,  
5 and Hawaii; and  
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7           WHEREAS, together, these stations represent an invaluable  
8 network of research facilities that allow CTAHR to conduct not  
9 only research, but also education and cooperative extension  
10 activities to meet the diverse needs of communities and growers  
11 within their own unique environments; and  
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13           WHEREAS, the effectiveness and true potential of this  
14 research network have been seriously curtailed through a lack of  
15 investment in modernizing facilities and a long history of  
16 deferred maintenance of aging infrastructure; and  
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18           WHEREAS, CTAHR has been actively engaged with stakeholders  
19 at the state and national levels to build a greater awareness of  
20 its research infrastructure needs across the CTAHR network of  
21 research stations; and  
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23           WHEREAS, at the state level, CTAHR is working with the  
24 University of Hawaii System and the Legislature to garner funds  
25 for strategic investments in updating aging infrastructure and  
26 modernizing research facilities; and  
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28           WHEREAS, at the national level, CTAHR is working closely  
29 with its land-grant university partners to advocate for  
30 strategic federal investments in agricultural research  
31 facilities across America; and



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2 WHEREAS, this body recognizes that without strategic  
3 investments in CTAHR's agricultural research infrastructure, the  
4 institution will be left with inadequate resources, which will  
5 gradually diminish its ability to respond to the research and  
6 education needs of the islands' communities; and  
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8 WHEREAS, despite CTAHR's ongoing advocacy efforts, this  
9 body finds that CTAHR's research station infrastructure needs  
10 will only become more dire if not addressed with urgency; now,  
11 therefore,  
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13 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-second  
14 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2023,  
15 that the University of Hawaii at Manoa College of Tropical  
16 Agriculture and Human Resources is requested to convene a  
17 working group to evaluate updating its cooperative extension  
18 sites; and  
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20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested  
21 to submit a report of its findings and recommendations,  
22 including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later  
23 than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session  
24 of 2024; and  
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26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that CTAHR is requested to submit a  
27 report of its work, including the status of CTAHR's cooperative  
28 extension sites and staff, to the Legislature no later than  
29 twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of  
30 2024; and  
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32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
33 Resolution be transmitted to the President of the University of  
34 Hawaii System, Chairperson of the Board of Regents of the  
35 University of Hawaii System, and University of Hawaii at Manoa  
36 College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources Dean and  
37 Director for Research and Cooperative Extension.

