
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING EACH COUNTY TO ESTABLISH AN EMERGENCY ZONING CODE FOR
POST-DISASTER USE.

1 WHEREAS, following the Maui wildfires in August of 2023,
2 the Speaker of the State House of Representatives established
3 six bipartisan interim working groups tasked with evaluating
4 specific topics in the aftermath of the wildfires and making
5 recommendations for appropriate legislative action in the
6 Regular Session of 2024; and

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8 WHEREAS, members of the working groups collaborated with
9 federal, state, and county agencies, along with community
10 stakeholders and interested parties, to identify immediate
11 issues that require temporary or transitional relief for the
12 people and businesses of West Maui; and

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14 WHEREAS, the Shelter Working Group was specifically tasked
15 with evaluating the availability and creation of temporary and
16 transitional shelters for displaced individuals and families and
17 preparing recommendations for appropriate legislative action;
18 and

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20 WHEREAS, the State was already suffering from high housing
21 costs due to low supply levels, and the Maui wildfires
22 exacerbated the already severe housing crisis; and

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24 WHEREAS, the Maui wildfires reportedly damaged 3,631
25 properties, a majority of which were rental housing and housing
26 for low-income families; and

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28 WHEREAS, numerous private individuals have set up temporary
29 housing on private land, with much of the temporary housing
30 going on agricultural lands; however, no county has established
31 an emergency zoning code that would allow the siting of



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1 temporary shelters, such as trailers, recreational vehicles, and
2 prefab housing; and

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4 WHEREAS, disasters can occur anywhere and at any time and
5 it is imperative that the State is prepared to address the
6 aftereffects of any future disaster and utilize all tools
7 available to ensure that residents have a clean and safe place
8 to reside during trying times; now, therefore,

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10 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
11 Thirty-second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
12 Session of 2024, the Senate concurring, that each county is
13 urged to establish an emergency zoning code that would allow for
14 the siting of temporary shelters such as trailers, recreational
15 vehicles, and prefab housing to be used immediately following a
16 disaster; and

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18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
19 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Mayor of the County
20 of Hawaii, Mayor of the City and County of Honolulu, Mayor of
21 the County of Kauai, Mayor of the County of Maui, each member of
22 the Hawaii County Council, each member of the Honolulu City
23 Council, each member of the Kauai County Council, and each
24 member of the Maui County Council.

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OFFERED BY: 

JAN 18 2024