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# HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS TO REPORT ON  
STRATEGIES FOR NATIVE HAWAIIAN RURAL RESILIENCY.

1           WHEREAS, safeguarding the character and identity of  
2 Hawaii's rural and remote communities is fundamental to the  
3 character, identity, and future of the State; and  
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5           WHEREAS, Hawaii's rural and remote communities are under  
6 threat of erasure due to the ongoing challenges of rapid  
7 urbanization, gentrification, economic instability, limited  
8 resources, and limited access to essential services; and  
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10           WHEREAS, Hawaii's rural and remote communities are  
11 historically disadvantaged, facing greater disparities in health  
12 care, education, food security, and economic opportunities in  
13 the State; and  
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15           WHEREAS, despite these disproportionate challenges,  
16 Hawaii's rural and remote communities are resilient, highly  
17 adaptive, and tempered, with aspirations to address their  
18 problems while preserving their character and identity; and  
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20           WHEREAS, historical barriers to addressing the disparities  
21 endured by Hawaii's rural and remote communities may be overcome  
22 through the use of technological advancements, providing  
23 innovative solutions in community-led economic development; and  
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25           WHEREAS, the lack of economic opportunities in Hawaii's  
26 rural and remote communities forces trans-generational  
27 outmigration of residents, exacerbating vulnerabilities and  
28 accelerating the erasure of community character and identity;  
29 and  
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1 WHEREAS, Hawaii's rural and remote communities comprise  
2 some of the last remaining bastions of intact and ecologically  
3 interconnected native Hawaiian culture, serving as treasured and  
4 living archives of wisdom for the benefit of present and future  
5 generations; and

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7 WHEREAS, protecting the rural character and identity of  
8 these communities is essential for the State to uphold its  
9 obligations to the Native Hawaiian people; and

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11 WHEREAS, Hawaii's catastrophic loss of biodiversity,  
12 significantly attributed to urbanization, has led to its  
13 recognition as the "endangered species capital of the world";  
14 and

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16 WHEREAS, Hawaii's rural and remote communities are critical  
17 buffer areas between urban sprawl, serving as vital green  
18 infrastructure and corridors for the conservation and bolstering  
19 of natural environmental systems and resources; and

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21 WHEREAS, the green infrastructure provided by Hawaii's  
22 rural and remote communities is essential for Hawaii's  
23 resiliency in the face of existential threats like climate  
24 change; and

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26 WHEREAS, climate change will have a more severe impact on  
27 historically disadvantaged communities, which face  
28 disproportionate social vulnerabilities without adequate  
29 strategies and support; and

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31 WHEREAS, Hawaii's rural and remote communities are integral  
32 to the State's resilience against supply chain vulnerabilities,  
33 food insecurity, and crises, upholding critical infrastructure  
34 sectors, including food and agriculture; and

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36 WHEREAS, adequate solutions to the plight of Hawaii's rural  
37 and remote communities should be achieved through the  
38 responsible and appropriate intersection and participation of  
39 external and internal entities that seek to preserve each  
40 community's character and identity; and

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1 WHEREAS, Hawaii's rural and remote communities have the  
2 capacity to propose solutions to their challenges, provided  
3 their voices are amplified and heard and they receive the  
4 necessary resources and support, without disrupting the  
5 integrity of their unique character and identity; now,  
6 therefore,

7  
8 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
9 Thirty-second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular  
10 Session of 2024, the Senate concurring, that the Office of  
11 Hawaiian Affairs is requested to report on strategies for Native  
12 Hawaiian rural resiliency, including possible steps for the  
13 development of strategies that provide for:

- 14  
15 (1) Innovative culturally appropriate housing models that  
16 address housing and economic development needs, while  
17 maintaining the character and aspirations of Native  
18 Hawaiian rural communities;  
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20 (2) Innovative culturally appropriate health care  
21 solutions; and  
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23 (3) Preservation and protection of Native Hawaiian  
24 cultural resources and their interdependent  
25 traditional and customary practices; and  
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27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Office of Hawaiian Affairs  
28 is requested to submit a report of its findings and  
29 recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the  
30 Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of  
31 the Regular Session of 2025; and  
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33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
34 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor;  
35 Chairperson of the Board of Trustees of the Office of Hawaiian  
36 Affairs; Chairperson of the Hawaiian Homes Commission;  
37 Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources;  
38 Chairperson of the Board of Agriculture; Director of Business,  
39 Economic Development, and Tourism; Mayor of the City and County  
40 of Honolulu; Mayor of Hawaii County; Mayor of Maui County; Mayor  
41 of Kauai County; Chair of the Honolulu City Council; Chair of

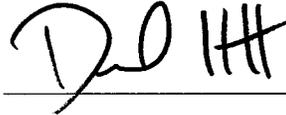


# H.C.R. NO. 66

1 the Hawaii County Council; Chair of the Maui County Council; and  
2 Chair of the Kauai County Council.

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OFFERED BY: \_\_\_\_\_



MAR - 5 2024

