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# HOUSE RESOLUTION

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REQUESTING THAT THE OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL AND THE  
STATE FIRE COUNCIL CLEARLY DEFINE STAGES OF WILDFIRE  
SUPPRESSION AND RELATED EFFORTS IN THE HAWAII STATE FIRE  
CODE.

1 WHEREAS, some of our nation's most devastating fires have  
2 been the result of lingering hotspots reigniting; and  
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4 WHEREAS, the Oakland Hills fire of 1991 which destroyed  
5 over 2,500 structures, the 2021 Boulder County fire which was  
6 the most destructive fire in Colorado's history, and the 2023  
7 Lahaina fire which was the deadliest fire in the United States  
8 in over a century, were each caused by the reignition of  
9 earlier, seemingly quelled blazes; and  
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11 WHEREAS, worsening drought conditions and more severe  
12 weather events associated with strong wind gusts intensify the  
13 risk of wildfire and increase the difficulty of firefighting  
14 efforts; and  
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16 WHEREAS, having clear definitions related to wildfire  
17 stages when communicating with the public and for internal  
18 guidelines for fire operations and suppression actions, formal  
19 reporting, and fire safety regulations would allow for cohesion  
20 in understanding of terminology and the execution of appropriate  
21 protocols; now, therefore,  
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23 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
24 Thirty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
25 of 2025, that the Office of the State Fire Marshal and the State  
26 Fire Council work together to clearly define stages of wildfire  
27 suppression and related efforts in the Hawaii State Fire Code;  
28 and  
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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following terms are  
2 included in defined terminology: "uncontrolled", "contained",  
3 "controlled", "extinguished", and "fully extinguished"; and  
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5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the definition of "fully  
6 extinguished" include the necessitation of constant monitoring  
7 to ensure the absence of hotspots or smoke for a minimum of  
8 forty-eight hours, and under red flag warning or drought  
9 conditions, ninety-six hours; and  
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11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
12 Resolution be transmitted to the State Fire Marshal, State Fire  
13 Council, county fire chiefs, each county's Fire Prevention  
14 Bureau, President of the Hawaii State Senate, and Speaker of the  
15 Hawaii State House of Representatives.

