

---

## HOUSE RESOLUTION

---

REQUESTING THE LAND USE COMMISSION TO COORDINATE WITH COUNTY  
PLANNING COMMISSIONS AND COUNTY COUNCILS TO CONDUCT  
CONCURRENT REVIEWS OF GENERAL PLAN AMENDMENTS, DISTRICT  
BOUNDARY AMENDMENTS, AND ZONING AMENDMENTS WHEN  
RECLASSIFYING LAND.

1 WHEREAS, the Land Use Commission is responsible for  
2 classifying all lands in the State into urban, rural,  
3 agricultural, or conservation districts; and  
4

5 WHEREAS, the counties are responsible for overseeing  
6 planning and zoning under their respective general plans and  
7 zoning ordinances, which must align with and implement state  
8 land use districts; and  
9

10 WHEREAS, any significant change in land use requires a  
11 three-step process that involves:  
12

- 13 (1) A general plan amendment, which is a county-level  
14 process;  
15  
16 (2) A state district boundary amendment, which is either a  
17 Land Use Commission process or, if the land in  
18 question is below a certain acreage threshold, a  
19 county-level process; and  
20  
21 (3) A county zoning amendment, which is a county-level  
22 process to implement the updated general plan and land  
23 use district; and  
24

25 WHEREAS, under the existing land reclassification system,  
26 each amendment is processed separately and sequentially,  
27 resulting in multiple review periods and public hearings that  
28 can take months or even years to complete; and  
29



1 WHEREAS, this protracted review timeline poses challenges  
2 for landowners, businesses, and government agencies seeking to  
3 address housing, infrastructure, economic development, and  
4 environmental management needs in a timely manner; and  
5

6 WHEREAS, more efficient coordination and scheduling between  
7 the Land Use Commission, county planning commissions, and county  
8 councils will significantly expedite the overall land  
9 reclassification process, reduce redundancy, and improve public  
10 engagement by consolidating timelines where possible while still  
11 preserving the integrity and thoroughness of each review; now,  
12 therefore,  
13

14 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
15 Thirty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
16 of 2025, that the Land Use Commission is requested to coordinate  
17 with each county planning commission and county council to  
18 conduct concurrent reviews of general plan amendments, district  
19 boundary amendments, and zoning amendments; and  
20

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Land Use Commission, county  
22 planning commissions, and county councils are requested to  
23 ensure each decision is made in the appropriate sequence but  
24 scheduled as close together as practicable; and  
25

26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Land Use Commissions,  
27 county planning commissions, and county councils are requested  
28 to develop administrative protocols or memoranda of  
29 understanding to facilitate shared hearings, joint public  
30 comment opportunities, and synchronized timelines to reduce  
31 unnecessary delay and duplication of effort; and  
32

33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
34 Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the Land Use  
35 Commission; Director of the Office of Planning and Sustainable  
36 Development; Mayors of the Counties of Maui, Kauai, and Hawaii  
37 and Mayor of the City and County of Honolulu; Chairpersons of  
38 the County Councils of Maui, Kauai, and Hawaii and the  
39 Chairperson of the Honolulu City Council; and Directors of the  
40 Departments of Planning of the Counties of Maui and Kauai,  
41 Planning Department of the County of Hawaii, and Department of  
42 Planning and Permitting of the City and County of Honolulu.



H.R. NO. 59

1  
2  
3

ZAC

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

MAR - 6 2025

