

MAR 14 2007

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE AUDITOR TO CONDUCT A FINANCIAL AND MANAGEMENT
AUDIT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE'S OPERATION OF THE
MOLOKAI IRRIGATION SYSTEM.

1 WHEREAS, the Molokai irrigation system, the largest
2 irrigation system operated by the Department of Agriculture,
3 extends for twenty-five miles, delivering 1,200,000,000 gallons
4 of water annually and serving 3,160 acres of land; and

5
6 WHEREAS, the Molokai irrigation system is supported by the
7 revenues the Department of Agriculture generates from users of
8 the system in the way of fees and charges; and

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10 WHEREAS, a portion of the revenues generated by the Molokai
11 irrigation system may be being diverted by the Department of
12 Agriculture to subsidize other irrigation systems or other
13 Department of Agriculture operations throughout the State; and

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15 WHEREAS, the termination of any diversion of revenues
16 generated by the Molokai irrigation system could mean lower fees
17 and rates for users of the system than they are now paying; and

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19 WHEREAS, users of the Molokai irrigation system and members
20 of the Molokai irrigation system water users advisory board have
21 been making recommendations for years on ways to improve the
22 system, including but not limited to ways to capture excess
23 runoff during maximum flow conditions and the use of diesel
24 power for the generation of electricity to operate the system;
25 and

26
27 WHEREAS, in spite of years of making recommendations on
28 improvements to the system, the users of the Molokai irrigation
29 system continue to deal with an inadequate irrigation system and
30 continue to pay fees and charges that do not allow for a
31 flourishing agricultural industry on Molokai; now, therefore,
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1 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fourth
2 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2007, the
3 House of Representatives concurring, that the Auditor is
4 requested to conduct a financial and management audit of the
5 Department of Agriculture's operation of the Molokai irrigation
6 system; and

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8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Auditor is requested to
9 include in the audit a determination of:

- 10
11 (1) The total annual revenues generated from users of the
12 Molokai irrigation system for the last three years;
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14 (2) The total annual costs of operation and maintenance of
15 the Molokai irrigation system for the last three
16 years;
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18 (3) Anticipated major costs for upkeep of the Molokai
19 irrigation system over the next three years;
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21 (4) Any anticipated capital improvement costs that the
22 Molokai irrigation system may require over the next
23 three years;
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25 (5) What, if any, funds generated from users of the
26 Molokai irrigation system are being diverted by the
27 Department of Agriculture to subsidize other
28 irrigation systems or other Department of Agriculture
29 operations throughout the State;
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31 (6) What measures may be implemented to improve the
32 physical facilities and the operations of the Molokai
33 irrigation system; and
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35 (7) What measures may be implemented to reduce the cost of
36 irrigation to users of the Molokai irrigation system;
37 and
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39 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Auditor is requested to
40 submit the findings and any recommendations of the audit,
41 including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later
42 than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session
43 of 2008; and
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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
2 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Auditor, the
3 Chairperson of the Board of Agriculture, and to the Molokai
4 irrigation system water users advisory board.
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OFFERED BY:

Cyrus Ite

Russell Kohli

