

MAR 14 2007

SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO
ASSESS THE FEASIBILITY OF ACQUIRING PROPERTY NEAR THE ISAAC
HALE BEACH PARK AND POHOIKI BOAT RAMP IN PUNA, HAWAII.

1 WHEREAS, Isaac Hale (Pohoiki) Beach Park is owned and
2 managed by the County of Hawaii, and is a popular place for
3 swimming and snorkeling when the water is calm, and is
4 considered one of the best surf spots ("Pohoiki Surf Break") on
5 the Puna coast; and

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7 WHEREAS, the Pohoiki Hot Spring or "warm pond", which is
8 located within the park is a popular place for visitors to enjoy
9 a soak in its ninety-eight degree waters while taking in a view
10 of the ocean; and

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12 WHEREAS, the Pohoiki Boat Ramp is the only launching
13 facility located on the Puna coast at Pohoiki Bay within the
14 Isaac Hale (Pohoiki) Beach Park; and

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16 WHEREAS, the Department of Land and Natural Resources owns
17 the boat ramp, which is the Department's sole holding in the
18 entire bay area, and is the only access to the ocean for boating
19 and swimming within the park area; and

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21 WHEREAS, the landowners of the nearby property adjacent to
22 Isaac Hale Beach Park have expressed interest in selling a one
23 acre plot of their parcel (tax key map number 1-3-08:34) near
24 the Pohoiki Boat Ramp and includes a portion of the lot on the
25 Hilo-side of the Hale House and the Pohoiki Hot Spring; and

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27 WHEREAS, although the County of Hawaii has expressed
28 interest in acquiring the property, a firm commitment has not
29 been made for the acquisition; and

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31 WHEREAS, currently, members of the public use this portion
32 of the land to park their vehicles and gain access to the park
33 and boat ramp; 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 Department of Land and Natural Resources is requested to assess
 4 the feasibility of and explore the Puna community sentiment
 5 regarding the Department acquiring the one acre plot of land
 6 that is adjacent to the Isaac Hale Beach Park; and
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8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Land and
 9 Natural Resources submit a written report to this body of its
 10 findings and recommendations, including any proposed
 11 legislation, no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
 12 the 2008 Regular Session; and
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14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that if the Department of Land and
 15 Natural Resources decides to acquire the one acre plot after the
 16 completion of its study, the Department shall acquire the one
 17 acre plot as land having value as a resource to the State under
 18 chapter 173A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, and use funds from the
 19 Land Conservation Fund under section 173A-5, Hawaii Revised
 20 Statutes, for the acquisition; and
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22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 23 Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the Board of
 24 Land and Natural Resources, and the landowners of tax key map
 25 number 1-3-08:34.
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OFFERED BY:






