MAR 1 2 2008

SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO MAKE THE HALEAKALA TRAIL AVAILABLE TO THE PEOPLE OF HAWAII.

WHEREAS, the Haleakala trail on the island of Maui, an eight-and-one-half mile trail which stretches from Saint Joseph's Church under Piiholo Road and the end of Olinda Road, through Haleakala Ranch, and ends at the crater rim of Haleakala National Park, is owned by the State of Hawaii; and

WHEREAS, an ancient Hawaiian trail improved to a bridle trail in 1905 by the Hawaiian territorial government, the Haleakala trail enables the public to access Haleakala without a guide; and

WHEREAS, because Haleakala Ranch, a family-owned ranch, claims ownership of the portion of the Haleakala trail that goes through its property, the trail is not currently open to the public; and

WHEREAS, the Haleakala trail is the only state-owned trail that is not open to the public; and

WHEREAS, to make the trail available for the public to use once again, the conflicting claim of title of Haleakala Ranch must be legally resolved or the matter settled in favor of public access; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Land and Natural Resources and the Attorney General have the resources to resolve this dispute with Haleakala Ranch; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2008, that the Department of Land and Natural Resources, with the assistance of Deputy Attorney General Randall Ishikawa, is requested to resolve the ongoing dispute over access to the Haleakala trail with Haleakala Ranch to make the trail accessible to the public; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Land and Natural Resources, with the assistance of Deputy Attorney General Randall Ishikawa, is requested to submit to the Senate a progress report of progress made in resolving the dispute with Haleakala Ranch no later than twenty days prior to the Regular Session of 2009, and a final report of the resolution no later than sixty days after final resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Department of Land and Natural Resources and Deputy Attorney General Randall Ishikawa.

OFFERED BY:

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