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SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE GOVERNOR AND THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO STRIVE TO EXPEND THE STATE OF HAWAII'S FULL ALLOTMENT OF FEDERAL AID IN WILDLIFE RESTORATION FUNDS.

WHEREAS, the Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act of September 2, 1937, provides federal aid to states for management and restoration of wildlife; and

WHEREAS, funds from an eleven per cent excise tax on sporting arms and ammunition are appropriated to the Secretary of the Interior and apportioned to states on a formula basis for paying up to seventy-five per cent of the cost approved projects including acquisition and improvement of wildlife habitat, introduction of wildlife into suitable habitat, research into wildlife problems, surveys and inventories of wildlife problems, acquisition and development of access facilities for public use, and hunter education programs, including construction and operation of public target ranges; and

WHEREAS, state matching funds are available through in-kind service projects and other means; and

WHEREAS, each year, the State of Hawaii does not use its full allotment of federal funding resulting in the unused funds being returned to the federal government for other purposes; and

WHEREAS, there are many potential projects in the State of Hawaii that qualify for use of the federal funds; and

WHEREAS, the development of a public target range on the island of Hawaii has wide-ranging community support and is needed; and

WHEREAS, using the federal funds allotted to the State of Hawaii would be a needed economic boost for the State; now, therefore,

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BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2009, the House of Representatives concurring, that the Legislature requests the Governor and the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources to strive to expend the full allotment of Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act funds; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources is requested to consider the development of a shooting range on the island of Hawaii; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources submit a report of the use of the Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act funds to the Legislature not later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2010; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor and the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources.

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OFFERED BY:

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