MAR 1 8 2009

SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO MONITOR NOISE LEVELS OF AIRCRAFT, TO ESTABLISH AN AIRCRAFT NOISE ABATEMENT MASTER PLAN, AND TO ESTABLISH AN ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

WHEREAS, Hawaii bears the burden of nearly fifty per cent of U.S. helicopter tourism; and

WHEREAS, it is impossible to go anywhere, even in federally designated wilderness areas, without being bombarded by the effects of aircraft noise; and

WHEREAS, aircraft noise causes detrimental disturbances to native species in our parks and in wilderness areas, and this noise detracts from the serenity the purpose for which these parks and areas were originally designated: the preservation of nature and the ability to experience nature for park goers; and

WHEREAS, aircraft noise upsetting and intrusive for East Honolulu residents, especially those living near the shoreline and in valleys where the scream of engines and helicopter blades reverberates, especially as helicopter and airplane noise can be heard in East Honolulu as late as 11:00 p.m. and as early as 4:00 a.m., which is disruptful to the sleep of people in residential areas; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2009, it is requested that the Department of Transportation monitor noise levels from airport operations; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department establish an aircraft noise abatement master plan; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department maintain a twenty-four hour noise complaint hot line and website; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department establish a volunteer advisory committee to facilitate the monitoring of

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noise levels, the creation of a noise abatement master plan, and the setup of the complaint hot line and website; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department and the advisory committee work towards the goal of cessation or restriction of aircraft flights over private property, schools, zoos, parks, and sacred sites, in addition to enforcement that includes denial of future permits for violators; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the advisory committee submit its recommendations, including proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the 2010 Regular Session; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Department of Transportation.

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