

MAR 18 2009

---

## SENATE RESOLUTION

---

STRONGLY URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES AND THE CITY OF HONOLULU TO HONOR ACT 15 OF THE 1921 TERRITORIAL LEGISLATURE BY PRESERVING THE WAIKIKI WAR MEMORIAL NATATORIUM IN IT'S ORIGINAL LOCATION ON THE WAIKIKI SHORE.

1 WHEREAS, the Twenty-Fifth Legislature finds that in  
2 upholding the legislation passed by our forefathers, this body  
3 perpetuates the integrity of the Hawaii State Legislature and  
4 further ensures that the laws passed today are protected and  
5 upheld by those elected to precede this Legislature; and  
6

7 WHEREAS, in 1921, the Territorial Legislature of Hawaii  
8 passed Act 15 which approved the construction of the Waikiki War  
9 Memorial Natatorium, a "Living Memorial" to honor the 102  
10 servicemen from Hawaii who were killed during World War I; and  
11

12 WHEREAS, completed in 1927, the Waikiki War Memorial  
13 Natatorium located in close proximity to Diamond Head, across  
14 from Kapiolani Park, and situated between San Souci Beach and  
15 the Waikiki Aquarium; and  
16

17 WHEREAS, designed by famed architect Louis P. Hobart, the  
18 façade features a Beaux-Arts style ornamental arched entryway  
19 featuring four stone eagles measuring over twenty feet tall; and  
20

21 WHEREAS, the actual Memorial is a 100 by 40-meter tide fed  
22 saltwater pool where Buster Crabbe and Johnny Weismuller trained  
23 for the 1928 Olympics and has also been host to world-renowned  
24 national and international swim competitions, featuring figures  
25 such as Duke Kahanamoku, Bill Smith, Ford Konno, coach Soichi  
26 Sakamoto and more; and  
27

28 WHEREAS, although the Waikiki War Memorial Natatorium has  
29 deteriorated since its initial construction, in 2001, over four  
30 million dollars of repairs were completed on the site including  
31 a façade restoration and the renovation of the bleachers and  
32 public restrooms; and  
33



1 WHEREAS, the Waikiki War Memorial Natatorium is listed on  
2 both the National and Hawaii Registers of Historic Places, is  
3 not only an architectural anchor for the Waikiki District, but  
4 the repository of Hawaii's swimming, ocean sports and Olympic  
5 history; and

6  
7 WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of this State to  
8 preserve Hawaii's uniqueness and cultural identity for the  
9 benefit of all its residents as well as its visitors; and

10  
11 WHEREAS, the National Trust for Historic Preservation has  
12 proven that Cultural Heritage Tourists are overall more  
13 affluent, stay longer and spend more while contributing to  
14 global understanding through cultural exchange and commerce; and

15  
16 WHEREAS, cultural and heritage visitors spend, on average,  
17 \$623 per trip compared to \$457 for all U.S. travelers, excluding  
18 the cost of transportation; and

19  
20 WHEREAS, heritage tourism and more broadly, historic  
21 preservation and the efforts of the Heritage Caucus not only  
22 benefits the State socially but economically as well; now,  
23 therefore,

24  
25 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-Fifth  
26 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2009,  
27 that the Department of Land and Natural Resources and the City  
28 and County of Honolulu honor Act 15 of the 1921 Territorial  
29 Legislature by preserving the Waikiki War Memorial Natatorium in  
30 its original location on the Waikiki shore; and

31  
32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
33 Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the Department  
34 of Land and Natural Resources, the Mayor of the City and County  
35 of Honolulu, and the Honolulu City Council.



S.R. NO. 90

OFFERED BY: *Shiranne Chun Ouland*

