

MAR 18 2009

SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE SENATE PRESIDENT TO ESTABLISH A TASK FORCE TO
DETERMINE THE ECONOMIC VALUE OF CONSTRUCTION IN HAWAII.

1 WHEREAS, tourism is Hawaii's principal industry, and
2 visitor expenditures added over \$12 billion into the State's
3 economy in 2007 and over \$11 billion in 2008; and
4

5 WHEREAS, the construction industry is also important to
6 Hawaii's economy, contributing approximately \$3,400,000,000 to
7 the State's economy and employing over six per cent of the
8 State's workforce in 2008; and
9

10 WHEREAS, the current economic situation has resulted in a
11 6.1 per cent unemployment rate in Hawaii as of January 2009, the
12 highest in over twenty five years; furthermore, the Department
13 of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism estimates visitor
14 arrivals to decline by 5.9 per cent for 2009, and the Chair of
15 the Hawaii Council on Revenues anticipates a 3.2 per cent
16 decline in construction in 2009; and
17

18 WHEREAS, the decline of the housing and credit markets, and
19 the related construction downturn, and high unemployment are
20 significantly affecting Hawaii's economy; and
21

22 WHEREAS, state support to study the current and potential
23 economic benefits of the construction industry is warranted,
24 given that the tourism and construction industries are such
25 important drivers of the local economy, and is further warranted
26 as the combined robustness of the construction, housing, and
27 tourism industries can ultimately navigate the State's economy
28 through the current recession to recovery; now, therefore,
29

30 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fifth
31 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2009,
32 that the Senate President is requested to establish a task force
33 to determine the economic contributions of the construction
34 industry in Hawaii; and
35



1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force consist of the
2 following seventeen members appointed by the Senate President,
3 each having one vote:

- 4
- 5 (1) One member shall be a reputable contractor or
6 subcontractor to represent the construction industry;
7
- 8 (2) One member shall be a representative of labor unions;
9
- 10 (3) One member shall be a representative of the banking or
11 finance industry;
12
- 13 (4) One member shall be a tax law professional;
14
- 15 (5) Eight members shall be landowner representatives, with
16 one member representing each island of Hawaii, Maui,
17 Molokai, Kahoolawe, appointed by the Senate President,
18 and Oahu, Kauai, Lanai, and Niihau;
19
- 20 (6) One member shall be a hotel or development industry
21 representative who has expertise in hospitality or
22 timeshares; and
23
- 24 (7) Four members shall be representatives of federal,
25 state, and county governments who have expertise in
26 tax policy; and
27

28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of the task force
29 shall select a chairperson from among themselves, and the
30 chairperson is requested to convene task force meetings; and
31

32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to:

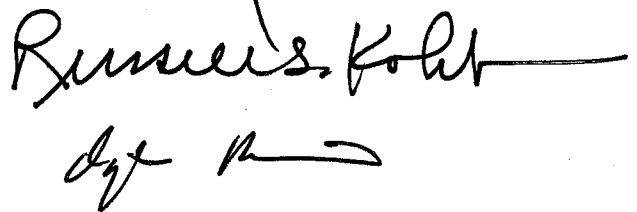
- 33
- 34 (1) Determine the economic value of the construction
35 industry in Hawaii, including both the direct economic
36 contributions of the industry to the local economy and
37 the industry's indirect economic benefits through
38 other industries, such as tourism and housing; and
39
- 40 (2) Propose and evaluate potential state actions, such as
41 tax credits for the renovation or construction of
42 hotels and other tourism-related facilities, including
43 the anticipated economic impact of those actions on
44 the State's economy; and



1
2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to
3 submit a report of its findings, analyses, and recommendations,
4 including any proposed legislation to the Senate, not later than
5 twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of
6 2010; and
7

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this
9 Resolution be transmitted to the Senate President
10
11
12

OFFERED BY: _____


dy m

