HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE, 2010 STATE OF HAWAII

H.C.R. NO. 204

## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU TO INCREASE FINES AND LIENS FOR MULTIPLE VIOLATIONS OF COUNTY PROPERTY AND PUBLIC HEALTH ORDINANCES.

WHEREAS, Hawai'i is the most beautiful state in America and 1 2 Honolulu is the loveliest capital city, and tourists and residents alike enjoy the beautiful scenery and charming 3 4 neighborhoods; and 5 WHEREAS, most residents take pains to maintain their 6 properties, but there are those who neglect their homes and 7 8 allow them to become run-down; and 9 WHEREAS, there may be cases where a person/corporation may 10 own three or more separate properties within a one-mile radius 11 that has been allowed to remain vacant, to be broken into and 12 13 used by vagrants, to become overgrown, and cause neighboring 14 homes to lose value; and 15 16 WHEREAS, as an example, the City has issued 53 citations to a property owner in one neighborhood who had failed to obtain 17 demolition permits, and allowed the properties to become 18 19 overgrown and blighted, and when other county ordinances were violated; and 20 21 22 WHEREAS, the State Department of Health has also been 23 called in to investigate potential health violations on the 24 properties of this property owner; and 25 WHEREAS, a few violations may not seriously impact one 26 27 neighborhood, but when an owner allows several properties to amass multiple uncorrected violations in a relatively short 28 29 period of time, then the sheer number becomes an egregious 30 insult to other owners and reduces the value of nearby homes; 31 and

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2 WHEREAS, a reduction in the property value of homes in an 3 area also provides grounds for the reduction of real property 4 taxes, creating a perfect storm of events in a time of global 5 recession when the City and County of Honolulu, like other 6 counties and the State, are facing budget problems; and 7

8 WHEREAS, if a person owns at least three properties within 9 a one-mile radius, then it is incumbent on the City to assess a 10 sufficiently significant fines or liens to encourage that person 11 to maintain his/her property in accordance with community 12 standards or subdivision covenants; now, therefore, 13

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2010, the Senate concurring, that the City and County of Honolulu is requested to increase fines and issue liens within a specified period of time when an owner is cited for multiple violations for property violations within a certain area; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Honorable Mufi Hannemann, Mayor of the City & County of Honolulu, Honolulu City Council members, the Kahala Community Association, the Kahala Business Association, and the Waialae-Kahala Neighborhood Board No. 3.

OFFERED BY:

Juhan Manumet

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