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

H.C.R. NO. 4

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

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

1 WHEREAS, Hawai'i is the most beautiful state in America and Honolulu is the loveliest capital city, and tourists and 2 residents alike enjoy the beautiful scenery and charming 3 neighborhoods; and 4 5 6 WHEREAS, most residents take pains to maintain their properties, but there are those who neglect their homes and 7 allow them to become run-down and a blight upon their 8 9 neighborhoods; and 10 WHEREAS, there may be cases where a wealthy person 11 purchases dozens of homes in a small area, allow many of them to 12 remain vacant, become run-down, broken into by vagrants, become 13 14 overgrown, and cause neighboring homes to lose value; and 15 WHEREAS, the City has, in one case, issued over 50 16 17 citations to one individual who owns 24 properties when the individual failed to obtain demolition permits, allowed the 18 properties to become overgrown and blighted, and when other 19 20 county ordinances were violated; and 21 WHEREAS, a few violations may not seriously impact one 22 neighborhood, but when an owner allows several properties to 23 amass multiple uncorrected violations in a relatively short 24 period of time, creating a public health and blight problem, 25 then the sheer number becomes an egregious insult to other 26 owners and may reduce the value of nearby homes; and 27 28 29 WHEREAS, a reduction in the property value of homes in an entire neighborhood provides grounds for the reduction of real 30

property taxes, creating a perfect storm of events in a time of

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1 global recession when the City and County of Honolulu, like 2 other counties and the State, are facing budget problems; and 3 4 WHEREAS, if a person owns at least five properties that 5 have amassed five citations in a period of 5 years in a one square mile area, then it is incumbent on the City to assess a 6 sufficiently significant fine or penalty to encourage that 7 8 person to maintain his property in accordance with community standards or subdivision covenants; now, therefore, 9 10 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the 11 12 Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session . 13 of 2010, the Senate concurring, that the City and County of Honolulu is requested to increase fines or penalties when an 14 owner is cited for multiple violations for property violations 15 within a certain time period and within a certain area; and 16 17 18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this 19 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Honorable Mufi 20 Hannemann, Mayor of the City & County of Honolulu, all Honolulu 21 City Council members, the Kahala Community Association, the 22 Kahala Business Association, and the Waialae-Kahala Neighborhood Board No. 3. 23 24 25 26

offered by: <u>Sahara Manuno</u>to

JAN 1 3.2010

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