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## HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES AND OTHER STATE AGENCIES RECOGNIZE THE IMPORTANCE OF AND ASSIST IN THE PRESERVATION OF THE NU`UANU `AUWAI SYSTEM.

1           WHEREAS, ancient Hawaiian tradition held fresh water as a  
2 treasure from the gods, with each person along its way using  
3 that gift having a duty to the person below to preserve it for  
4 use by others; and  
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6           WHEREAS, the waters of Nu`uanu start at its highest point  
7 in the Ko`olau mountains with the waterfalls of Waipuhia and  
8 Waipuulani, feeding the streams of Nu`uanu, Mo`ole, and Waolani;  
9 and  
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11           WHEREAS, ancient Hawaiian inhabitants of Nu`uanu Valley  
12 developed an `auwai or water ditch system to take the waters  
13 from the three streams and distribute the waters to irrigate  
14 extensive lo`i ai or taro fields that were present throughout  
15 the entire valley, from its upper reaches down to below the  
16 present Judd Street; and  
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18           WHEREAS, after damage to the `auwai system during the  
19 battle of Nu`uanu, Kamehameha moved to quickly restore the  
20 valley's agriculture production, summoning Kuho`oheiheipahu Paki  
21 to rebuild the irrigation system; and  
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23           WHEREAS, "in three days, [Paki] rallied several hundred men  
24 to construct the tremendous Nu`uanu irrigation system which  
25 supplies the numerous pondfields....this irrigation system is  
26 known even today as the Paki `auwai" ; and  
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28           WHEREAS, as Nu`uanu evolved from an extensive agricultural  
29 area into a residential area, many residents did not realize the  
30 existence of or care about the ancient `auwai system traversing  
31 the valley and in many instances, parts of the Nu`uanu `auwai



1 system were purposely closed, diverted, or covered up and as a  
2 result, out of fourteen original 'auwai there are only about  
3 eight that remain either flowing or reparable; and  
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5 WHEREAS, the Nu'uauu Valley 'Auwai Study Group is doing its  
6 best to spread information on the historic origins of the  
7 Nu'uauu 'auwai system and attempting to educate property owners  
8 on the value of ways of preserving this treasure; and  
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10 WHEREAS, the Hawaii Historic Foundation, together with the  
11 State Historic Preservation Division of the Department of Land  
12 and Natural Resources, has named the 'Auwai of Nu'uauu Valley as  
13 one of the nine most endangered historic places on its 2008 List  
14 of endangered places; now, therefore,  
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16 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
17 Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
18 of 2010, that the Department of Land and Natural Resources and  
19 all other state agencies are requested to do everything in their  
20 respective areas of responsibility to protect and preserve the  
21 'auwai of Nu'uauu Valley; and  
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23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
24 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Chairperson of the  
25 Board of Land and Natural Resources, Historic Hawaii Foundation,  
26 and Nu'uauu Valley 'Auwai Study Group.  
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OFFERED BY:

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