S.R. NO. 15

FEB - 8 2012

SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING DEVELOPMENT OF A PLAN FOR THE EXPANSION OF THE HAWAII FILM STUDIO DIAMOND HEAD CAMPUS TO ACCOMMODATE INCREASED STUDIO CAPACITY.

WHEREAS, Hawaii's film industry was established in 1898 with the first moving images; and

WHEREAS, the State established the Hawaii film studio in 1976 on former University of Hawaii land, initially in support of the original Hawaii Five-0 series, but moreover in an effort to provide greater incentive for film and television productions to film in Hawaii; and

WHEREAS, in 1989 the 7.5-acre property was transferred by Executive Order from the University of Hawaii to the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism and the department's Hawaii film office began managing the facility; and

WHEREAS, more than twenty major motion pictures and television productions have utilized the film studio including Hawaii Five-0, Magnum P.I., Mighty Joe Young, Final Fantasy, Blue Crush, Tears of the Sun, Hawaii, North Shore, LOST, Off The Map, and The River; and

WHEREAS, 2010 was a record year of production for the State of Hawaii with \$386,000,000 in direct film-related expenditures being pumped into the islands' economy, with an economic impact of over \$700,000,000, and generation of \$34,000,000 in tax revenue; and

WHEREAS, with the Legislature's passage of Act 88, Session Laws of Hawaii 2006, the motion picture, digital media, and film production income tax credit has been a successful incentive program that has attracted more than \$1,000,000,000 in production to the State of Hawaii since its inception in 2006; and

WHEREAS, there is a desire to expand the industry further, yet there is an acute lack of studio space statewide; and

WHEREAS, since 1986 the Legislature has approved more than \$17,000,000 to develop the Hawaii film studio campus that has resulted in a state-of-the-art soundstage, new production offices, and set construction facilities and other improvements; and

WHEREAS, the existing Hawaii film studio campus is located adjacent to the Diamond Head state monument; adjacent to unique and sensitive residential communities of Kahala, Diamond Head, Kaimuki, and Kapahulu; and near Kapiolani Park; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-sixth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2012, that the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism, with the cooperation of the University of Hawaii, Kapiolani Community College, and the Hawaii Tourism Authority, is requested to develop a plan for the expansion of the Hawaii film studio Diamond Head campus to accommodate increased studio capacity; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the plan consider adjacent neighborhoods, proximity to the wide array of nearby hotels, impact and potential synergies with the Kapiolani Community College campus and its digital media related programs, and the projected impact of increased production activity at this campus on the surrounding neighborhoods; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the plan offer alternatives for expansion of film production facilities given the potential impact in this existing location; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the plan also consider the current capital improvement project request for repairs, general maintenance, and basic improvements at the Hawaii film studio; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism is requested to submit the plan to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2013; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Governor; Director of Business,

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Economic Development, and Tourism; President of the University of Hawaii; Chancellor of Kapiolani Community College; and Executive Director of the Hawaii Tourism Authority.

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