HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE TO COLLABORATE WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM TO CREATE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES FOR THE PERPETUATION AND USE OF NATIVE HAWAIIAN PLANTS AND RESOURCES.

WHEREAS, Hawaii is the endangered species capital of the world with over 300 endangered plants; and

WHEREAS, Native Hawaiian plants grown in proper climate zones thrive with less water, require less fertilizer, and need less pruning than non-native plants; and

WHEREAS, growing Native Hawaiian plants helps develop knowledge of and appreciation for Hawaiian culture and history; and

WHEREAS, state incentives for plant nurseries and other agricultural organizations to grow and sell native plants would help promote Native Hawaiian plants and make more of them available for cultivation, use, and sale; and

WHEREAS, a thriving native plant and resource production sector would help to diversify Hawaii's economy; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2014, the Senate concurring, that the Department of Agriculture is urged to collaborate with the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism in creating economic development initiatives for the perpetuation and use of Native Hawaiian plants and resources; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Agriculture is requested to submit a report to the Legislature, no later

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than 20 days prior to the Regular Session of 2015, on the progress made concerning the establishment of economic development initiatives created for the perpetuation and use of Native Hawaiian plants and resources; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the Board of Agriculture and the Director of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism.
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