JAN 3 1 2014

SENATE RESOLUTION

URGING THE STATE OF HAWAII TO TAKE THE SAME POSITION AS THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU TO DEVELOP KAPOLEI AS THE "SECOND CITY".

WHEREAS, for many years, the city of Honolulu maintained its position as the centerpiece of Oahu; and

WHEREAS, unfortunately, with a growing population and growing businesses, traffic congestion has dramatically risen as nearly eighty percent of Oahu's jobs are concentrated in downtown Honolulu or nearby Waikiki; and

WHEREAS, in the early 1970s, the City and County of Honolulu's Planning Department began a general plan revision program that focused on directing growth to Ewa; and

WHEREAS, the general plan revision program culminated with the adoption of a new Oahu general plan in 1977 and designated the city of Kapolei as a "Secondary Urban Center" in order to "relieve developmental pressures in the urban fringe and rural areas"; and

WHEREAS, because such development would ideally provide relief from horrific traffic congestion and more evenly distribute the rapidly increasing population, the State of Hawaii, county agencies, private developers, and former Governor John Waihee began advocating for urban development in other regions of Oahu; and

WHEREAS, former Governor Waihee and other state officials stated that in developing a "Second City" they hoped to avoid the kind of mistakes that have left the Waikiki area and much of downtown Honolulu a concrete desert, hoping to instead recreate the look of "old Honolulu" that featured low-rise buildings made of wood, stone, and coral; and

WHEREAS, the State had committed to relocating and developing some of the public offices on eighty acres of reserved land in Ewa; and

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WHEREAS, developing Kapolei as a "Second City" will be a prime example of state and county coordination in meeting the housing and population problems on Oahu; and

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WHEREAS, with the State of Hawaii taking an official position to support Kapolei as a "Second City", future legislation can be directed to steer economic development, including jobs, housing, emerging industries, and education, to the leeward side of Oahu; now, therefore,

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BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2014, that this body urges the State of Hawaii to take the same position as the City and County of Honolulu to develop Kapolei as the "Second City"; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Governor; Director of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Chairperson of the Hawaii Community Development Authority; Chairperson of the Hawaii Strategic Development Corporation; Chairperson of the Land Use Commission; and Mayor of the City and County of Honolulu.

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OFFERED BY:

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