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SENATE RESOLUTION

ENCOURAGING THE HAWAII TOURISM AUTHORITY AND DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO WORK WITH COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS TO ASSIST IN THE ESTABLISHMENT OF HISTORICAL MARKERS AND TRAILS.

WHEREAS, the National Trust for Historic Preservation defines cultural heritage tourism as traveling to experience the places, artifacts, and activities that authentically represent the stories and people of the past; and

WHEREAS, one of the principal objectives of cultural heritage tourism is collaboration with local organizations and the public to develop sustainable economies; and

WHEREAS, the Hawaii Tourism Authority recognizes that some visitors' pursuit of a more authentic experience has resulted in increased tourism in Hawaii's small rural communities; and

WHEREAS, increased tourism in rural areas creates jobs and new business opportunities, and strengthens local economies so residents can live, work, and play within their community; and

WHEREAS, historical trails and walking tours have been utilized by community stakeholders to identify historic individuals or landmarks, encourage pedestrian traffic, and improve the local economy; and

WHEREAS, historical trails and walking tours have been created in Waikiki, Haleiwa, and Lahaina to increase cultural heritage tourism; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-eighth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2016, that the Hawaii Tourism Authority and Department of Land and Natural Resources are encouraged to work with community organizations to assist in and support the establishment of historical markers and trails; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hawaii Tourism Authority and Department of Land and Natural Resources are encouraged to identify areas that meet criteria for historical trails or walking tours; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hawaii Tourism Authority and Department of Land and Natural Resources are requested to seek private, county, or federal revenue sources for this project; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources, Chairperson of the Hawaii Tourism Authority Board of Directors, and President and Chief Executive Officer of the Hawaii Tourism Authority.