
HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES AND
THE COUNTY OF HAWAII TO DETERMINE THE RIGHTFUL OWNER OF THE
KING KAMEHAMEHA THE GREAT STATUE IN NORTH KOHALA.

1 WHEREAS, in 1878, the Legislature of the Kingdom of Hawaii
2 commissioned a sculpture of King Kamehameha the Great and this
3 statue presently stands in Kapaau in North Kohala on the Island
4 of Hawaii, the birthplace of King Kamehameha the Great; and
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6 WHEREAS, painting and other maintenance of the statue has
7 been essential to preserve the statue over the last century and,
8 under the guidance of professional sculptors, the statue is
9 repainted every seven to ten years; and
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11 WHEREAS, there is a disagreement over who is responsible
12 for the preservation of the statue because the property on which
13 the statue sits was transferred from the State to the County of
14 Hawaii, but the statue is a moveable object and is not attached
15 to the land; and
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17 WHEREAS, the disagreement has forced the North Kohala
18 community to raise funds to maintain the statue; and
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20 WHEREAS, this disagreement over the responsibility to
21 maintain the statue should be finally resolved; now, therefore,
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23 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
24 Twenty-ninth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
25 of 2017, that the gratitude of the Legislature is extended to
26 the North Kohala community for understanding the need to care
27 for the statue of King Kamehameha the Great in Kapaau and for
28 knowing that the statue will deteriorate if not properly
29 maintained; and



1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Accounting
2 and General Services is requested to meet with the County of
3 Hawaii to determine the rightful owner of the statue; and
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5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that if it is determined that the
6 State of Hawaii is the rightful owner of the statue, the
7 Department of Accounting and General Services is requested to
8 determine the costs associated with the proper care of the
9 statue; and
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11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
12 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, the Comptroller, and
13 the Mayor of the County of Hawaii.

