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## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

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REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS TO  
CONVENE AN INTERAGENCY ENFORCEMENT TASK FORCE TO COMBAT  
ILLEGAL ACTIVITIES RELATED TO THE CONSTRUCTION AND  
OPERATIONS OF "MONSTER HOMES" IN THE STATE.

1 WHEREAS, Hawaii neighborhoods have seen an increase in the  
2 number of structures commonly referred to as "monster homes," or  
3 large-scale homes that are designed to house several families  
4 but are situated on property zoned for single-family residential  
5 use; and

6  
7 WHEREAS, these monster homes are very large, multi-level  
8 residential structures, with some homes reported to have as many  
9 as 17 to 25 bedrooms; and

10  
11 WHEREAS, these monster homes are homes built to the limits  
12 of lot lines and to the maximum permissible height; and

13  
14 WHEREAS, the construction of monster homes in single-family  
15 neighborhoods have raised concerns, including whether monster  
16 homes are in violation of permitting and zoning laws and whether  
17 the owners of these homes have appropriate certificates of  
18 occupancy or have modified their structures to create illegal  
19 units; and

20  
21 WHEREAS, residents of neighborhoods that have monster homes  
22 note an increase in noise and traffic, limited or no public  
23 parking, a strain on the existing community and surrounding  
24 infrastructure, greater density in the neighborhood, and erosion  
25 of the neighborhood character; now, therefore,

26  
27 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
28 Twenty-ninth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session



1 of 2018, the Senate concurring, that the Department of Labor and  
2 Industrial Relations is requested to convene an interagency  
3 enforcement task force, within the Department of Labor and  
4 Industrial Relations for administrative purposes, to combat  
5 illegal activities related to the construction and operations of  
6 monster homes in the State; and  
7

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the interagency enforcement  
9 task force is requested to assume the following functions as  
10 they relate to combatting illegal activities related to the  
11 construction and operations of monster homes in the State:  
12

- 13 (1) Serve as the State's interagency advisory and  
14 enforcement entity, with representation from state and  
15 county government departments and agencies, to combat  
16 illegal activities related to the construction and  
17 operations of monster homes;  
18
- 19 (2) Facilitate timely information-sharing among task force  
20 members, including through protocols by which  
21 participating departments and agencies advise or refer  
22 matters of potential investigative interest to other  
23 departments and agencies;  
24
- 25 (3) Identify illegal activities related to the construction  
26 and operations of monster homes;  
27
- 28 (4) Coordinate task force members' investigative and  
29 enforcement resources against violators on multiple  
30 fronts, including through the formation of interagency  
31 investigative and enforcement teams;  
32
- 33 (5) Assess existing investigative and enforcement methods  
34 in Hawaii and in other jurisdictions and develop and  
35 recommend strategies to improve those methods;  
36
- 37 (6) Encourage neighborhood boards, community associations,  
38 businesses, and individuals to identify violators by  
39 soliciting information from the public, facilitating  
40 the filing of complaints, and enhancing available  
41 mechanisms by which communities and individuals can  
42 report suspected violations;



- 1 (7) Solicit the cooperation and participation of  
2 prosecutorial agencies at the federal, state, and  
3 county levels and other relevant federal, state, and  
4 county law enforcement departments and agencies;  
5
- 6 (8) Establish procedures for referring cases to prosecuting  
7 authorities as appropriate;  
8
- 9 (9) Work collaboratively with labor, neighborhood boards,  
10 community associations, businesses, and individuals to  
11 address illegal activities related to the construction  
12 and operations of monster homes by, among other means,  
13 disseminating educational materials regarding the  
14 applicable laws and increasing public awareness of the  
15 harm caused to communities by illegal operations;  
16
- 17 (10) Work collaboratively with federal, state, and local  
18 social services agencies to provide assistance to  
19 vulnerable populations that have been exploited by the  
20 illegal construction and operations of monster homes,  
21 including immigrant workers;  
22
- 23 (11) Identify potential regulatory or statutory changes that  
24 would strengthen enforcement efforts, including changes  
25 needed to resolve existing legal ambiguities or  
26 inconsistencies, as well as potential legal procedures  
27 for facilitating individual enforcement efforts;  
28
- 29 (12) Consult with representatives of labor, neighborhood  
30 boards, community associations, and businesses; members  
31 of the Legislature; representatives of the City and  
32 County of Honolulu and Counties of Hawaii, Kauai, and  
33 Maui; community groups; and other state and county  
34 departments and agencies regarding the activities of  
35 the task force and its members on ways of improving the  
36 effectiveness of the task force, including  
37 consideration of whether to establish an advisory panel  
38 within a state department;  
39
- 40 (13) Submit an annual report no later than twenty days  
41 before the convening of each regular session to the  
42 Legislature, Governor, Mayor and Council Chair of the



1 City and County of Honolulu, and Mayors and Council  
2 Chairs of the Counties of Hawaii, Kauai, and Maui  
3 summarizing the task force's activities during the  
4 preceding year; and  
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- 6 (14) Take appropriate steps to publicize its activities and  
7 actions; and  
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9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to  
10 include the following in its annual report:  
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- 12 (1) A description of the task force's efforts and  
13 accomplishments during the year;  
14  
15 (2) Identification of any administrative or legal barriers  
16 that impede the more effective operation of the task  
17 force, including barriers to information-sharing or  
18 joint action;  
19  
20 (3) Proposals, after consultation with representatives of  
21 labor, neighborhood boards, community associations,  
22 and businesses; members of the Legislature;  
23 representatives of the City and County of Honolulu and  
24 the Counties of Hawaii, Kauai, and Maui; community  
25 groups; and other state and county agencies, of  
26 appropriate administrative, legislative, or regulatory  
27 changes to strengthen the operations and enforcement  
28 efforts of the task force and reduce or eliminate any  
29 barriers to those efforts; and  
30  
31 (4) Identification of successful preventive mechanisms for  
32 addressing the problem of illegal activities related  
33 to the construction and operations of monster homes;  
34 and  
35

36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that every department and agency  
37 within the State's Executive Branch and the Executive Branches  
38 of the City and County of Honolulu and the Counties of Hawaii,  
39 Kauai, and Maui is requested to work collaboratively with the  
40 task force and make all reasonable efforts to:



- 1 (1) Stop contractors and subcontractors who are in  
2 violation of permitting, licensing, workers'  
3 compensation, unemployment insurance, prepaid health  
4 insurance, and other labor and licensing laws from  
5 working on a construction project to ensure that the  
6 health, well-being, and safety of all workers on the  
7 project are protected;  
8  
9 (2) Develop and implement policies, rules, and laws that  
10 allow state and county departments and agencies to  
11 halt the work, as soon as legally possible, of  
12 contractors and subcontractors who are in violation of  
13 permitting, licensing, and labor laws; and  
14  
15 (3) Furnish information and assistance as the task force  
16 reasonably deems necessary to accomplish the purposes  
17 of the task force; and  
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19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the interagency enforcement  
20 task force may hold meetings that are closed to the public  
21 pursuant to section 92-5, Hawaii Revised Statutes; and  
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23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
24 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor; Mayor of  
25 the City and County of Honolulu; Mayors of the Counties of  
26 Hawaii, Kauai, and Maui; and Director of Labor and Industrial  
27 Relations.  
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OFFERED BY:



MAR 09 2018

