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## HOUSE 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  
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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  
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11 WHEREAS, these monster homes are homes built to the limits  
12 of lot lines and to the maximum permissible height; and  
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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  
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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,  
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27 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
28 Twenty-ninth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
29 of 2018, that the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations  
30 is requested to convene an interagency enforcement task force,



1 within the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations for  
2 administrative purposes, to combat illegal activities related to  
3 the construction and operations of monster homes in the State;  
4 and  
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6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the interagency enforcement  
7 task force is requested to assume the following functions as  
8 they relate to combatting illegal activities related to the  
9 construction and operations of monster homes in the State:  
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- 11 (1) Serve as the State's interagency advisory and  
12 enforcement entity, with representation from state and  
13 county government departments and agencies, to combat  
14 illegal activities related to the construction and  
15 operations of monster homes;  
16
- 17 (2) Facilitate timely information-sharing among task force  
18 members, including through protocols by which  
19 participating departments and agencies advise or refer  
20 matters of potential investigative interest to other  
21 departments and agencies;  
22
- 23 (3) Identify illegal activities related to the construction  
24 and operations of monster homes;  
25
- 26 (4) Coordinate task force members' investigative and  
27 enforcement resources against violators on multiple  
28 fronts, including through the formation of interagency  
29 investigative and enforcement teams;  
30
- 31 (5) Assess existing investigative and enforcement methods  
32 in Hawaii and in other jurisdictions and develop and  
33 recommend strategies to improve those methods;  
34
- 35 (6) Encourage neighborhood boards, community associations,  
36 businesses, and individuals to identify violators by  
37 soliciting information from the public, facilitating  
38 the filing of complaints, and enhancing available  
39 mechanisms by which communities and individuals can  
40 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;  
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- 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;  
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- 40      (13) Submit an annual report no later than twenty days  
41      before the convening of each regular session to the



1           Legislature, Governor, Mayor and Council Chair of the  
2           City and County of Honolulu, and Mayors and Council  
3           Chairs of the Counties of Hawaii, Kauai, and Maui  
4           summarizing the task force's activities during the  
5           preceding year; and  
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- 7           (14) Take appropriate steps to publicize its activities and  
8           actions; and  
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10          BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to  
11 include the following in its annual report:  
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- 13           (1) A description of the task force's efforts and  
14           accomplishments during the year;  
15  
16           (2) Identification of any administrative or legal barriers  
17           that impede the more effective operation of the task  
18           force, including barriers to information-sharing or  
19           joint action;  
20  
21           (3) Proposals, after consultation with representatives of  
22           labor, neighborhood boards, community associations,  
23           and businesses; members of the Legislature;  
24           representatives of the City and County of Honolulu and  
25           the Counties of Hawaii, Kauai, and Maui; community  
26           groups; and other state and county agencies, of  
27           appropriate administrative, legislative, or regulatory  
28           changes to strengthen the operations and enforcement  
29           efforts of the task force and reduce or eliminate any  
30           barriers to those efforts; and  
31  
32           (4) Identification of successful preventive mechanisms for  
33           addressing the problem of illegal activities related  
34           to the construction and operations of monster homes;  
35           and  
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37          BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that every department and agency  
38 within the State's Executive Branch and the Executive Branches  
39 of the City and County of Honolulu and the Counties of Hawaii,  
40 Kauai, and Maui is requested to work collaboratively with the  
41 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 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor; Mayor of the City and  
25 County of Honolulu; Mayors of the Counties of Hawaii, Kauai, and  
26 Maui; and Director of Labor and Industrial Relations.  
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OFFERED BY:



MAR 09 2018

