
HOUSE RESOLUTION

URGING THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF HAWAII TO EXERCISE
ITS POWER OF EMINENT DOMAIN TO CONDEMN NAALEHU THEATER TO
PRESERVE THE THEATER'S HISTORIC LEGACY.

1 WHEREAS, the Naalehu Theater, the southernmost theater in
2 the country, was constructed in 1925 by the Hutchinson Sugar
3 Company; and
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5 WHEREAS, the theater hosted live performances and community
6 events and, decades later, movie screenings for the public; and
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8 WHEREAS, the property the theater is located on is
9 currently owned by 300 Corporation, a division of the Harry and
10 Jeanette Weinberg Foundation; and
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12 WHEREAS, an attempt to list the theater as a historic
13 property was made in 2005; and
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15 WHEREAS, representatives from the State Historic
16 Preservation Division of the Department of Land and Natural
17 Resources visited the site and determined the theater was
18 eligible for listing; and
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20 WHEREAS, the theater was considered for listing on the
21 Hawaii Register of Historic Places and National Register of
22 Historic Places by the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board; and
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24 WHEREAS, in June 2005, the president of 300 Corporation
25 respectfully objected to the listings; and
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27 WHEREAS, in 2006, the roof of the theater started to leak
28 and needed repairs, including a new roof and ceiling, new
29 gutters, and repairs to the foundation, at a cost of about
30 \$150,000; and
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32 WHEREAS, volunteers repaired the theater and submitted
33 paperwork for the theater to become a National Historic
34 Landmark, but the theater was not designated as or given any
35 historic status; and



H.R. NO. 193

Garth Thicker
MAR 09 2018

