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## HOUSE RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO ALLOW THE COUNTIES TO USE VACANT STATE LANDS AS STORAGE FOR ABANDONED VEHICLES.

1           WHEREAS, abandoned vehicles in the State of Hawaii are a  
2 safety issue, an environmental issue, and a parking issue; and  
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4           WHEREAS, in 2016, the City and County of Honolulu towed  
5 about 1,600 abandoned vehicles and tow companies complained that  
6 their lots are overcrowded with abandoned and derelict vehicles  
7 and they do not have the space to store any more vehicles; and  
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9           WHEREAS, abandoned vehicles often become objects of  
10 graffiti and vandalism in residential areas, which makes them  
11 eyesores and a danger to nearby residents; and  
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13           WHEREAS, some of the vehicles are abandoned on public  
14 property and can remain there for months at a time; and  
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16           WHEREAS, abandoned vehicles often become occupied by  
17 homeless individuals; and  
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19           WHEREAS, according to the Department of Customer Services,  
20 the City and County of Honolulu has requested an additional two  
21 to four acres of land for one to two years to store abandoned  
22 vehicles; and  
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24           WHEREAS, towing companies have experienced increased  
25 operating costs in the past few years due to an increase in  
26 industrial real-estate values, which has resulted in a loss of  
27 storage lots for towed vehicles, and it is difficult to obtain  
28 additional storage lots from property owners because they are  
29 hesitant to lease their land to a towing company; and



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1           WHEREAS, when towing companies' lots are full, they need to  
2 travel to other lots that are further away to store the  
3 abandoned vehicles, which results in higher operating costs for  
4 the towing companies; and  
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6           WHEREAS, towing companies may not be interested in county  
7 contracts because available storage lots are in areas that would  
8 increase their travel expenses; and  
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10          WHEREAS, between 2011 and 2016, about 1,440 abandoned  
11 vehicles on towing storage lots in Oahu were traced to military  
12 personnel who abandoned their vehicles when they left the  
13 island, creating further storage problems for towing companies;  
14 and  
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16          WHEREAS, military vehicles that are ferried into the State  
17 cost the counties even more than the typical abandoned vehicle,  
18 and these military vehicles make up a significant portion of  
19 abandoned vehicles in the State; and  
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21          WHEREAS, the Department of Land and Natural Resources has  
22 control over State lands that may be currently vacant and not  
23 being used for any purpose; and  
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25          WHEREAS, allowing the counties to use the Department's  
26 vacant land to store abandoned vehicles would eliminate the  
27 costs that towing companies would otherwise incur from storing  
28 abandoned vehicles on their premises; now, therefore,  
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30          BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
31 Twenty-ninth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
32 of 2018, that the Department of Land and Natural Resources is  
33 urged to allow the counties to use the Department's vacant state  
34 lands as storage for abandoned vehicles; and  
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36          BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Land and  
37 Natural Resources is urged to give the counties the discretion  
38 to select from any available state land under the jurisdiction  
39 of the Department of Land and Natural Resources; and



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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
 2 Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the Board of  
 3 Land and Natural Resources and the Mayor of each county.  
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OFFERED BY:

*[Handwritten signature]*  
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MAR - 8 2018

