

MAR 09 2018

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING ACTIONS TO RESTORE AND RESERVE THE KAWAINUI-HĀMĀKUA MARSH
COMPLEX AND PREPARATION OF A COMPREHENSIVE WETLANDS
ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PLAN, A DETAILED WATERBIRD HABITAT
RESTORATION PLAN, AND A COMPREHENSIVE WETLANDS MANAGEMENT
PLAN TO PROTECT HAWAII'S FOUR ENDANGERED WATERBIRDS AND
VISITING MIGRATORY WATERBIRDS IN THE KAWAINUI-HĀMĀKUA MARSH
COMPLEX.

WHEREAS, Kawainui Marsh and Hāmākua Marsh share
international recognition as biosphere reserve sites under the
auspices of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization and as Wetlands of International
Importance under the Ramsar Convention; and

WHEREAS, only a fully restored and functioning Kawainui
Marsh, which:

(1) Provides an abundance of habitat and protection for
the State's endangered waterbirds and migratory birds;

(2) Has water quality that is as clean and pure as
possible, has an adequate water supply to provide a
sufficient waterbird habitat and facilitate native
goby migration;

(3) Actively protects known archaeological sites and seeks
to discover as yet unearthed historical and
archaeological sites; and

(4) Provides a secure and safe place to visit,
can host a limited number of people to experience its wonders;
and

WHEREAS, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service
prohibits visitors into the wetlands of Campbell National



1 Wildlife Refuge on Oahu's North Shore during Hawai'i's endangered
2 waterbirds' nesting seasons; and
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4 WHEREAS, the Department of Land and Natural Resources'
5 draft management plan for the Kawainui-Hāmākua Marsh Complex
6 allows almost 10,000 visitors a month into the Kawainui-Hāmākua
7 Marsh Complex during all twelve months of the year; and
8

9 WHEREAS, the Department of Land and Natural Resources'
10 draft management plan for the Kawainui-Hāmākua Marsh Complex
11 recommends that the Board of Land and Natural Resources grant
12 long-term leases of state land to private organizations to allow
13 these organizations to construct several buildings and restrooms
14 with septic leach fields costing a total of \$16,380,000 within a
15 few yards of the wetlands that will be closed to the public; and
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17 WHEREAS, the estimated total cost of the Department of Land
18 and Natural Resources' draft management plan for the Kawainui-
19 Hāmākua Marsh Complex is \$66,720,000; now, therefore,
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21 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-ninth
22 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2018, the
23 House of Representatives concurring, that the Department of Land
24 and Natural Resources is urged to prepare a comprehensive
25 wetlands ecosystem restoration plan, a detailed waterbird
26 habitat restoration plan, and a comprehensive wetlands
27 management plan to protect Hawai'i's four endangered waterbirds
28 and visiting migratory waterbirds in the Kawainui-Hāmākua Marsh
29 Complex; and
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31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Land and
32 Natural Resources and the City and County of Honolulu are urged
33 to work together to restore the natural water flow and volume
34 through the Kawainui-Hāmākua Marsh Complex and prioritize the
35 removal of the central peat mat in Kawainui Marsh to prevent
36 future flooding of the downstream Coconut Grove residential area
37 in Kailua; and
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39 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Land and
40 Natural Resources is urged to close the Kawainui-Hāmākua Marsh
41 Complex to all visitors during the endangered Hawaiian wetland
42 birds' and migratory wetland birds' nesting season; and



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2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Land and Natural
3 Resources is urged to terminate the granting of month-to-month
4 permits or long-term leases for use of state land within two
5 thousand feet of the Kawainui-Hāmākua Marsh Complex; and
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7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Land and Natural
8 Resources is urged to prohibit commercial activity on state land
9 in or within two thousand feet of the Kawainui-Hāmākua Marsh
10 Complex; and
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12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Land and Natural
13 Resources is urged to prohibit all restrooms within two thousand
14 feet of the Kawainui-Hāmākua Marsh Complex and on adjacent state
15 land mauka of the wetlands that are not connected to a City and
16 County of Honolulu wastewater treatment facility; and
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18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Land and
19 Natural Resources, Department of Health, and City and County of
20 Honolulu are urged to work together to relocate the Kapa'a
21 Industrial Park out of the Kawainui-Hāmākua Marsh Complex
22 watershed and to clean up the contaminated soil in Kapa'a Valley
23 so that the Class One waters in the Kawainui-Hāmākua wetlands
24 are no longer polluted from this source; and
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26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
27 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor,
28 Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources, Director
29 of Health, and Mayor of the City and County of Honolulu.
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OFFERED BY: 

