

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE COUNTIES TO ENFORCE THE CONDITIONS OF PERMITS ISSUED FOR CONSTRUCTION TO MINIMIZE SOIL EROSION AND SEDIMENT RUN-OFF THAT MAY DAMAGE THE STATE'S REEFS AND NEARSHORE WATERS.

1 WHEREAS, construction often involves removing vegetation, altering topography, and covering previously vegetated surfaces 2 3 with impervious surfaces, including roads, driveways, and buildings; and 4 5 6 WHEREAS, these changes to the landscape may result in the erosion of soil and sedimentation of various bodies of water as 7 soil travels in water run-off; and 8 9 10 WHEREAS, during storm events, petroleum and other chemicals used at construction sites may also drain into the State's water 11 supplies; and 12 13 14 WHEREAS, uncovered ground areas that do not have proper soil conservation measures in place pursuant to an applicable 15 county code are causing run-off to enter near-shore ocean waters 16 during heavy rain events; and 17 18 19 WHEREAS, numerous construction companies are allowed to continue to work under their permits, despite being in 20 noncompliance and causing run-off to occur; and 21 22 23 WHEREAS, the effects of storms on, and erosion and sediment contributions from, construction sites significantly impact 24 water quality throughout the State and may alter or destroy 25 aquatic habitats and reefs; and 26 27



WHEREAS, state waters are a precious resource that provide
sustenance to Hawaii's economy and are an integral element of
Hawaii's culture and heritage; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2020, the Senate concurring, that the counties are requested to enforce the conditions of permits issued for construction to minimize soil erosion and sediment run-off that may damage the State's reefs and nearshore waters; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Mayor and Chairperson of the Council of each county; Director of Planning and Permitting for the City and County of Honolulu; and Directors of Planning for the counties of Hawaii, Maui, and Kauai.

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OFFERED BY:

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