

---

---

## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO DESIGNATE THE  
REEF RUNWAY AS THE FRANK T. OKIMOTO REEF RUNWAY.

1           WHEREAS, to alleviate aircraft noise patterns over Honolulu  
2 and the surrounding areas, the Reef Runway was constructed on  
3 coral reef adjacent to the Honolulu International Airport in  
4 1977; and

5  
6           WHEREAS, construction of the Reef Runway cost \$89,000,000;  
7 and

8  
9           WHEREAS, the Reef Runway is the world's first major runway  
10 built entirely offshore; and

11  
12           WHEREAS, the engineering achievements of the Reef Runway  
13 earned the project two awards: one of the Ten Outstanding  
14 Engineering Achievements Awards in the United States in 1977  
15 from the National Society of Professional Engineers, and the  
16 Aviation Environment Award from the Federal Aviation  
17 Administration, which had only been awarded once before; and

18  
19           WHEREAS, the runway was designed to serve as an alternative  
20 landing site for the Space Shuttle; and

21  
22           WHEREAS, the Project Engineer for the Reef Runway was the  
23 late Frank T. Okimoto, who served as an airports civil engineer  
24 from 1967 until his untimely passing in 1978; and

25  
26           WHEREAS, because Frank T. Okimoto fully supported  
27 environmental surveys regarding the design and construction of  
28 the Reef Runway, great care was taken during the design and  
29 construction of the Reef Runway to minimize the environmental  
30 impacts of the runway on surrounding areas, including any



1 impacts on the indigenous bird population of the region,  
2 resulting in improved water quality; and  
3

4 WHEREAS, according to the "State of Hawaii, Department of  
5 Transportation, Report to the Governor, Fiscal Years 1978 and  
6 1979", Frank T. Okimoto's "insight, questions and exacting  
7 standards motivated the highest goals from everyone connected  
8 with the project. In respect and affection from co-workers, the  
9 Reef Runway has been called 'Frank's Runway'"; and  
10

11 WHEREAS, designating the Reef Runway as the Frank T.  
12 Okimoto Reef Runaway will not adversely affect any state or  
13 federal funding for the runway or Daniel K. Inouye International  
14 Airport; now, therefore,  
15

16 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
17 Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of  
18 2020, the Senate concurring, that the Department of  
19 Transportation is requested to designate the Reef Runway at the  
20 Daniel K. Inouye International Airport as the Frank T. Okimoto  
21 Reef Runway; and  
22

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of  
24 Transportation is requested to erect and maintain appropriate  
25 signage for the Frank T. Okimoto Reef Runway; and  
26

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
28 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Lieutenant  
29 Governor, and Director of Transportation.  
30  
31  
32

OFFERED BY: *Doc Hoke*

*Rida Cabanilla Hankawa* *[Signature]*  
*[Signature]* *[Signature]*  
*[Signature]* *[Signature]*  
*[Signature]* *[Signature]*

