

MAR - 6 2020

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE HAWAII TOURISM AUTHORITY TO CONDUCT A STUDY TO
IDENTIFY AND ADDRESS THE IMPACTS OF TOURISM ON COMMUNITIES
THROUGHOUT THE STATE.

1 WHEREAS, tourism is the largest contributor to Hawaii's
2 economy, with visitors to Hawaii spending more than
3 \$17,000,000,000, in 2018, and generating more than
4 \$2,000,000,000 in tax revenue to the State in 2019; and
5

6 WHEREAS, tourism also supports more than two hundred
7 thousand jobs; and
8

9 WHEREAS, in 2019, more than ten million visitors arrived in
10 Hawaii, setting a visitor arrival record for the eighth
11 consecutive year; and
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13 WHEREAS, this increase in visitors has caused additional
14 strain on infrastructure, facilities, and attractions utilized
15 and enjoyed by residents and tourists alike; and
16

17 WHEREAS, between 2010 and 2018, agreement by residents with
18 the statement "tourism brings more benefits than problems" has
19 declined from eighty percent to fifty-nine percent; and
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21 WHEREAS, this decline illustrates residents' growing
22 concerns with the impacts that tourism may have on Hawaii's
23 natural resources and the residents' respective communities; and
24

25 WHEREAS, these concerns have led to the formation of
26 grassroots community groups that seek to mitigate the growing
27 impacts of tourism; and
28

29 WHEREAS, the Hawaii Tourism Authority has previously
30 collaborated with other agencies to address the impacts of



1 tourism; including collaborating with the Department of Land and
2 Natural Resources to develop the Haena State Park management
3 plan, funding "ambassadors" to manage traffic at Maunawili
4 Falls, and working with the City and County of Honolulu to fund
5 the installation of closed-circuit cameras in Waikiki; and
6

7 WHEREAS, tourism continues to remain an important part of
8 Hawaii's economy but is impacting numerous sites throughout the
9 State; and
10

11 WHEREAS, the Hawaii Tourism Authority has developed a new
12 strategic plan that includes a rebalancing of the Authority's
13 priorities with an emphasis on the Authority's tourism
14 management functions; now, therefore,
15

16 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirtieth Legislature
17 of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2020, the House of
18 Representatives concurring, that the Hawaii Tourism Authority is
19 requested to conduct a study to identify and address the impacts
20 of tourism on communities throughout the State; and
21

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study include the
23 following:
24

- 25 (1) Identification and prioritization of issues caused by
26 tourism that impact communities throughout the State
27 and any sites in which those issues are particularly
28 prevalent;
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- 30 (2) Development of processes to:
31
- 32 (A) Address the issues identified pursuant to
33 paragraph (1);
34
 - 35 (B) Determine any resources, including staffing,
36 necessary to identify affected stakeholders;
37
 - 38 (C) Facilitate multi-year discussions between public
39 and private stakeholders;
40



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- 1 (D) Work directly with public and private
- 2 stakeholders to address the issues identified
- 3 pursuant to paragraph (1);
- 4
- 5 (E) Assist affected communities and applicable public
- 6 and private stakeholders to develop solutions to
- 7 the issues identified pursuant to paragraph (1);
- 8 and
- 9
- 10 (F) Identify sources of funding to address the issues
- 11 identified pursuant to paragraph (1), including
- 12 existing funds that may be reallocated;
- 13
- 14 (3) Identification of applicable federal, state, and
- 15 county agencies having jurisdiction to address the
- 16 issues identified pursuant to paragraph (1); and
- 17
- 18 (4) A recommended timetable for implementation of the
- 19 processes developed pursuant to paragraph (2); and
- 20

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hawaii Tourism Authority is
 22 requested to submit a report of its findings and
 23 recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the
 24 Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
 25 the Regular Session of 2021; and

26
 27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this
 28 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the President and Chief
 29 Executive Officer of the Hawaii Tourism Authority.

OFFERED BY: _____

Karl Rhoads
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