

MAR - 6 2020

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO CONDUCT A STUDY
EVALUATING THE IMPACT OF SEA LEVEL RISE ON STATE HARBOR
OPERATIONS.

1 WHEREAS, climate change and sea level rise are two of the
2 most preeminent challenges of the twenty-first century and are
3 pivotal issues for the State; and
4

5 WHEREAS, recognizing that shorelines are one of the State's
6 most dynamic and important cultural and economic resources, the
7 Legislature in 2017 created the Hawaii Climate Change Mitigation
8 and Adaptation Commission (Commission) and tasked the
9 Commission, as a first step, to focus on sea level rise and
10 develop a report identifying vulnerabilities and recommending
11 adaptations; and
12

13 WHEREAS, the Commission submitted the Hawaii Sea Level Rise
14 Vulnerability and Adaptation Report in December 2017, which
15 identified, at tax map key detail, areas that are susceptible to
16 sea level rise impacts based on the 3.2 feet of sea level rise
17 projected by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change; and
18

19 WHEREAS, the Hawaii Sea Level Rise Vulnerability and
20 Adaptation Report warned that the projected sea level rise would
21 have a significant impact on infrastructure in Hawaii such as
22 harbor facilities, which are located in low-lying coastal areas
23 of the State and face the problem of chronic flooding; and
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25 WHEREAS, the Hawaii Sea Level Rise Vulnerability and
26 Adaptation Report also noted that a more detailed economic loss
27 analysis is needed of Hawaii's critical infrastructure,
28 including harbors; now, therefore,
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30 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirtieth Legislature
31 of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2020, the House of
32 Representatives concurring, that the Department of



S.C.R. NO. 232

1 Transportation is requested to conduct a strategic statewide
 2 study evaluating the effects of sea level rise on statewide
 3 harbor operations and pier heights; and
 4

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of
 6 Transportation is requested to consider the potential structural
 7 and economic damage to statewide harbor operations, costs to
 8 prevent or mitigate that damage, financing options, and any
 9 other issues relevant to preserving harbor facilities; and
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11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of
 12 Transportation is requested to report its findings and
 13 recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the
 14 Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
 15 the Regular Session of 2021; and
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17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this
 18 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of
 19 Transportation.
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 22

OFFERED BY: *Freddie R. Mays*

[Signature]
Rosely H. Bell
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Kal Nhand

