SENATE 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
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6   WHEREAS, tourism also supports more than two hundred
7 thousand jobs; and
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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
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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
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29   WHEREAS, the Hawaii Tourism Authority has previously
30 collaborated with other agencies to address the impacts of
31 tourism; including collaborating with the Department of Land and
32 Natural Resources to develop the Haena State Park management

1   plan, funding "ambassadors" to manage traffic at Maunawili
2   Falls, and working with the City and County of Honolulu to fund
3   the installation of closed-circuit cameras in Waikiki; and
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5   WHEREAS, tourism continues to remain an important part of
6   Hawaii's economy but is impacting numerous sites throughout the
7   State; and
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9   WHEREAS, the Hawaii Tourism Authority has developed a new
10   strategic plan that includes a rebalancing of the Authority's
11   priorities with an emphasis on the Authority's tourism
12   management functions; now, therefore,
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14   BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirtieth Legislature
15   of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2020, that the Hawaii
16   Tourism Authority is requested to conduct a study to identify
17   and address the impacts of tourism on communities throughout the
18   State; and
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20   BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study include the
21   following:
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23   (1)   Identification and prioritization of issues caused by
24   tourism that impact communities throughout the State
25   and any sites in which those issues are particularly
26   prevalent;
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28   (2)   Development of processes to:
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30   (A)   Address the issues identified pursuant to
31   paragraph (1);
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33   (B)   Determine any resources, including staffing,
34   necessary to identify affected stakeholders;
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36   (C)   Facilitate multi-year discussions between public
37   and private stakeholders;
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39   (D)   Work directly with public and private
40   stakeholders to address the issues identified
41   pursuant to paragraph (1);
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1   (E)   Assist affected communities and applicable public
2   and private stakeholders to develop solutions to
3   the issues identified pursuant to paragraph (1);
4   and
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6   (F)   Identify sources of funding to address the issues
7   identified pursuant to paragraph (1), including
8   existing funds that may be reallocated;
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10   (3)   Identification of applicable federal, state, and
11   county agencies having jurisdiction to address the
12   issues identified pursuant to paragraph (1); and
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14   (4)   A recommended timetable for implementation of the
15   processes developed pursuant to paragraph (2); and
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17   BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hawaii Tourism Authority is
18 requested to submit a report of its findings and
19 recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the
20 Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
21 the Regular Session of 2021; and
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23   BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this
24 Resolution be transmitted to the President and Chief Executive
25 Officer of the Hawaii Tourism Authority.
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OFFERED BY: _____