

MAR 12 2021

SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES'
DIVISION OF STATE PARKS TO DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT AN
INNOVATIVE STRATEGIC PLAN FOR THE USE OF COCONUT PALM TREES
FOR THE PURPOSE OF CREATING A SUSTAINABLE FOOD SOURCE.

1 WHEREAS, the Hawaii State Park System has over fifty parks
2 encompassing approximately thirty thousand acres across the
3 islands, ranging from landscaped grounds to wild land areas; and
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5 WHEREAS, current State processes do not allow coconuts from
6 the coconut palms in parks to grow into mature fruit due to
7 safety concerns from falling coconuts, nor do they provide for
8 the collection and processing of fallen fruit to distribute as
9 food sources; and
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11 WHEREAS, the people of Hawaii are committed to creating a
12 sustainable food source where all residents can enjoy longer,
13 healthier lives by combatting hunger and providing safe food
14 access to everyone in our community, especially to our most
15 vulnerable populations; and
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17 WHEREAS, promoting innovative strategies of sustainable
18 food sources will reduce waste and promote the sustainable use
19 of lands for food; and
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21 WHEREAS, the need has been identified to preserve and
22 protect coconut fruits growing from the palm trees. It is
23 essential to the public that fruit trees in state parks and
24 state-owned lands be permitted to be utilized for a variety of
25 purposes, such as a sustainable food source especially to feed
26 those in need; and
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28 WHEREAS, public outreach has been conducted in various
29 formats to gather opinions and comments regarding the matter.
30 Charity organizations, such as the Hawaii Foodbank and Hawaii
31 Homeless Healthcare Hui, are willing to accept edible coconuts
32 and the Hawaii Foodbank is agreeable to providing drivers to
33 collect donations at various sites if coconuts from public lands
34 were to be collected and processed; now, therefore,



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2 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-first
3 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2021,
4 that the Department of Land and Natural Resources' Division of
5 State Parks is requested to develop and implement an innovative
6 and strategic plan for the use of coconut palms in state parks
7 and state-owned lands as a sustainable food source; and

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9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this
10 Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the Board of
11 Land and Natural Resources.

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OFFERED BY: 

