

MAR 12 2021

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# SENATE RESOLUTION

URGING THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU TO ADOPT A STREAMLINED PERMITTING PROCESS LIKE HOALA LOKO IA FOR THE RESTORATION, REPAIR, MAINTENANCE, AND RECONSTRUCTION OF TRADITIONAL HAWAIIAN FISHPOND SYSTEMS UNDER ITS JURISDICTION.

1 WHEREAS, in June 1989, the Hawaiian Fishpond Study for the  
2 islands of Oahu, Molokai, and Hawaii, which was prepared for the  
3 Hawaii Coastal Zone Management Program, found, in part, that  
4 complex regulatory procedures and processes for permits in the  
5 coastal zone inhibit the use of traditional Hawaiian fishpond  
6 systems in the State; and  
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8 WHEREAS, in November 2012, traditional native Hawaiian  
9 practitioners at the Fishpond Conference issued a declaration  
10 that called for the development of a state programmatic general  
11 permit and streamlined permitting process for the restoration,  
12 protection, preservation, perpetuation, traditional and  
13 customary use and/or maintenance of loko i'a (traditional  
14 Hawaiian fishpond systems) and their related biocultural  
15 resources and habitats across Hawaii, stating, in part, that:  
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- 17 (1) Loko i'a are unique sustainable aquaculture systems  
18 found nowhere else in the world;  
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20 (2) Loko i'a can significantly contribute to healthy and  
21 sustainable food security and food sovereignty in  
22 Hawaii;  
23  
24 (3) Loko i'a can also play a role in mitigating the local  
25 impacts of sea level rise and coastal inundation;  
26  
27 (4) Loko i'a are critical and essential sites of learning,  
28 traditional and ancestral knowledge, STEM (science,  
29 technology, engineering, and math) education, cultural  
30 practice, healthy physical activity, and community  
31 fellowship; and  
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1 (5) The restoration and reuse of loko i'a provide an  
2 opportunity to increase community-based sustainable  
3 economic development opportunities; and  
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5 WHEREAS, the Department of Land and Natural Resources  
6 through the Office of Conservation and Coastal Lands is  
7 responsible for regulating and permitting land uses in  
8 conservation districts; and  
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10 WHEREAS, in January 2015, the Department of Land and  
11 Natural Resources released a streamlined permitting process for  
12 restoration, repair, maintenance, and operation of loko i'a  
13 called Ho'āla Loko I'a; and  
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15 WHEREAS, in July 2015, Governor David Ige also prioritized  
16 and facilitated the repair and restoration of loko i'a by signing  
17 Act 230, Session Laws of Hawaii 2015, which waives the need to  
18 obtain water quality certifications for loko i'a restoration  
19 projects that receive notice of authorization through the Ho'āla  
20 Loko I'a permitting process; and  
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22 WHEREAS, Ho'āla Loko I'a allows most of the various permits  
23 required for the repair and restoration of loko i'a, such as  
24 those for dredging, wall repair, and removal of invasive  
25 species, to fall under one Master Conservation District Use  
26 Permit; and  
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28 WHEREAS, the State classifies its land into districts based  
29 on their different uses, such as conservation, agricultural,  
30 urban, and rural; and  
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32 WHEREAS, the counties of the State are responsible for  
33 regulating and permitting land uses in agricultural, urban, and  
34 rural districts; and  
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36 WHEREAS, although the permitting process for loko i'a has  
37 been streamlined, Ho'āla Loko I'a is a state-run program and the  
38 jurisdiction of the Department of Land and Natural Resources  
39 only covers conservation districts, therefore this streamlined  
40 process can only apply to the loko i'a in conservation districts;  
41 and



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WHEREAS, the loko i'a on Oahu that exist outside of conservation districts are under the jurisdiction of the City and County of Honolulu; and

WHEREAS, because Ho'āla Loko I'a was developed to be consistent with various county coastal zone management regulations, traditional native Hawaiian practitioners should be able to use a streamlined process like Ho'āla Loko I'a to secure any county permits necessary for loko i'a restoration projects; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-first Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2021, that the City and County of Honolulu is urged to adopt a streamlined permitting process like Ho'āla Loko I'a for the restoration, repair, maintenance, and reconstruction of loko i'a located in areas under its jurisdiction; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Mayor of the City and County of Honolulu, nine members of the Honolulu City Council, and Director of the Honolulu Department of Planning and Permitting.

OFFERED BY:

