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HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO ESTABLISH A TASK FORCE TO DEVELOP PLANS, STRATEGIES, AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR STATEWIDE FLOOD MITIGATION AND WATERSHED MANAGEMENT OVER THE NEXT CENTURY.

WHEREAS, the impacts of climate change on the planet are already occurring and will continue to increase; and

WHEREAS, increasing temperatures, rising sea levels, devastating wildfires, severe droughts, and major flooding are just some of the effects of climate change; and

WHEREAS, Hawaii has recently experienced more flooding incidents, many of greater severity; and

WHEREAS, it is crucially important for the State to be proactive and plan for future floods in order to protect lives and property; and

WHEREAS, the proper management of watersheds plays a significant role in flood mitigation; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Thirty-first Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2022, the Senate concurring, that the Department of Land and Natural Resources is requested to establish a task force to:

- (1) Develop plans and strategies for statewide flood mitigation; and
- (2) Discuss and develop plans and recommendations for the next century of watershed management in the State, with the primary focus on watershed management for flood mitigation purposes; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to consist of:

(1) The Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources, or the Chairperson's designee;

(2) The Director of the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development, or the Director's designee;

(3) The Director of the Department of Planning and Permitting of the City and County of Honolulu, or the Director's designee;

(4) The Director of the Department of Planning of the County of Hawaii, or the Director's designee;

(5) The Director of the Department of Planning of the County of Maui, or the Director's designee;

(6) The Director of the Department of Planning of the County of Kauai, or the Director's designee;

(7) One member of the House of Representatives, to be selected by the Speaker of the House of Representatives; and

(8) One member of the Senate, to be selected by the President of the Senate; and

 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to submit a report of its plans, findings, and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2023; and

 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Land and Natural Resources is requested to provide any necessary staff support to the task force, including the preparation of the report; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force be dissolved on 2 June 30, 2023; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources, Director of the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development, Mayor of the City and County of Honolulu, Director of the Department of Planning and Permitting of the City and County of Honolulu, Mayor of the County of Hawaii, Director of the Department of Planning of the County of Hawaii, Mayor of the County of Maui, Director of the Department of Planning of the County of Maui, Mayor of the County of Kauai, and Director of the Department of Planning of the County of Kauai.

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OFFERED BY:

MAR 1 1 2022