
SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTS THE COUNTY OF HAWAI'I TO CONDUCT A FEASIBILITY STUDY ON
THE CREATION OF A MARSHALLESE COMMUNITY CENTER IN HAWAIIAN
OCEAN VIEW ESTATES.

1 WHEREAS, the Republic of the Marshall Islands (Marshall
2 Islands) is a nation comprising low-lying coral atolls and
3 islands with an average elevation of two meters above sea level;
4 and

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6 WHEREAS, the effects of climate change such as rising sea
7 levels, extreme flooding, and drought have impacted agriculture,
8 infrastructure, and daily life in the Marshall Islands; and

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10 WHEREAS, the Marshallese diaspora includes over seven
11 thousand migrants residing in Hawai'i, of which fourteen hundred
12 reside in Hawaiian Ocean View Estates on the island of Hawai'i;
13 and

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15 WHEREAS, the coronavirus disease 2019 pandemic has
16 exacerbated the public health crisis and other social
17 determinants of health opportunities for Pacific Islanders
18 across the State, including populations in rural areas where
19 there are limited and inequitable access to water, electricity,
20 and health care; and

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22 WHEREAS, to create a safe, inclusive, and positive social
23 environment for the Marshallese community in Hawaiian Ocean View
24 Estates, a community center can enhance community solidarity
25 through the provision of group activities, public information
26 and assistance, social support, and perpetuation of culture;
27 now, therefore,

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29 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-first
30 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2022,
31 that the County of Hawai'i, in collaboration with Marshallese
32 leaders of the community, is requested to conduct a feasibility



1 study on the creation of a Marshallese Community Center in
2 Hawaiian Ocean View Estates; and

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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County of Hawai'i is
5 requested to submit a report of its findings and
6 recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the
7 Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
8 the Regular Session of 2023; and

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10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
11 Resolution be transmitted to the Mayor of the County of Hawai'i
12 and members of the Hawai'i County Council.

