
SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS TO CONDUCT A
FEASIBILITY STUDY ON THE CREATION OF AN ENFORCEMENT
DIVISION FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS.

1 WHEREAS, the land trust managed by the Department of
2 Hawaiian Home Lands consists of over two hundred thousand acres
3 across the State; and

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5 WHEREAS, the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands has an
6 enforcement section whose role is to investigate complaints from
7 the public and other government agencies dealing with
8 trespassing and other misuses of Hawaiian home lands, initiate
9 actions to evict trespassers, and curtail illegal activities on
10 Hawaiian home lands; and

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12 WHEREAS, the enforcement section does not have police
13 powers but instead relies on county police or the Department of
14 Land and Natural Resources' Division of Conservation and
15 Resources Enforcement for policing Hawaiian home lands; and

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17 WHEREAS, in February of 2021, the enforcement section and
18 Honolulu Police Department investigated an illegal game room on
19 Hawaiian home lands, and there are reports of other such illegal
20 game rooms in operation; and

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22 WHEREAS, without police powers, the enforcement section
23 does not currently have the authority to even prevent
24 trespassers from traversing through sensitive Department of
25 Hawaiian Home Lands managed lands; now, therefore,

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27 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-first
28 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2022,
29 that the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands is requested to
30 conduct a feasibility study for the creation of an enforcement
31 division with police powers within the Department of Hawaiian
32 Home Lands, similar to that of the Division of Conservation and



1 Resources Enforcement within the Department of Land and Natural
2 Resources; and

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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Hawaiian Home
5 Lands is requested to submit a copy of the feasibility study,
6 including any necessary proposed legislation, to the Legislature
7 no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular
8 Session of 2023; and

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10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this
11 Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the Hawaiian
12 Homes Commission.

