
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU TO LEAD COMMUNITY EDUCATION WORKSHOPS REGARDING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE NORTH SHORE COASTAL RESILIENCE WORKING GROUP AND SEEK PUBLIC INPUT FROM INDIVIDUALS AND ORGANIZATIONS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A COMPREHENSIVE AND COMMUNITY-DRIVEN COASTAL RESILIENCE PLAN FOR THE NORTH SHORE OF OAHU.

1 WHEREAS, the consequences of global climate change have
2 already begun to impact Hawaii, such as by causing beaches and
3 coastal neighborhoods to be affected by extreme erosion and
4 rising sea levels; and

5
6 WHEREAS, the Hawaii Sea Level Rise Vulnerability and
7 Adaptation Report, published in December 2017, estimates that by
8 the end of the century, climate change will result in the loss
9 of \$19,000,000,000 in land and critical infrastructure, the
10 displacement of nearly twenty thousand residents, and the
11 flooding of six thousand five hundred structures; and

12
13 WHEREAS, current responses to rising sea levels have
14 focused largely on shoreline hardening, which exacerbates
15 erosion in order to protect private property interests for the
16 short term; and

17
18 WHEREAS, coastal communities and ecosystems deserve
19 comprehensive and long-term strategies that properly respect the
20 power and significance of the ocean; and

21
22 WHEREAS, the power of the ocean is on full display on the
23 North Shore of Oahu, where rising sea levels have already
24 reclaimed property; and

25
26 WHEREAS, this body recognizes the ongoing efforts of the
27 community-initiated North Shore Coastal Resilience Working Group



1 (Working Group), convened in 2021 by the University of Hawaii
2 Sea Grant College Program and Surfrider Foundation, with support
3 from SSFM International; and
4

5 WHEREAS, the Working Group is a voluntary collaborative
6 effort among a group of twenty-five diverse stakeholders
7 including the State, City and County of Honolulu, beachfront and
8 other residents of the North Shore of Oahu, elected officials,
9 and University of Hawaii faculty; and
10

11 WHEREAS, the goals of the Working Group include:
12

- 13 (1) Discussing and evaluating options related to coastal
14 hazards, including chronic coastal erosion, flooding,
15 climate change, and sea level rise adaptation on the
16 North Shore of Oahu;
17
18 (2) Improving community resilience;
19
20 (3) Conserving the natural beach ecosystem, nearshore
21 marine environment, and wildlife habitats; and
22
23 (4) Protecting public access, recreational resources, and
24 water quality; and
25

26 WHEREAS, the geographic focus of the Working Group is the
27 North Shore Planning District, from Kaena Point to Velzyland
28 Beach, with particular emphasis on developing adaptation
29 pathways for coastal erosion "hot spots" at Sunset Beach and
30 Kammies, Mokuleia, and Chuns Reef and Laniakea Beach; and
31

32 WHEREAS, the Working Group has met five times since
33 September 2021 and anticipates issuing recommendations in Summer
34 2022, with the possibility of continued work on these issues;
35 and
36

37 WHEREAS, the Working Group may provide innovative policy
38 options for future consideration by the State and City and
39 County of Honolulu and could serve as a model for other
40 communities in Hawaii to follow in responding to regional
41 coastal erosion challenges resulting from climate change and sea
42 level rise; and



H.C.R. NO. 136

1
2 WHEREAS, the findings of the Working Group must be
3 strengthened through the lens of Hawaiian knowledge, culture,
4 and science, which emphasize the reciprocal relationship of
5 humans and nature; and

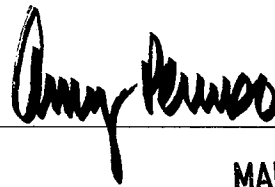
6
7 WHEREAS, this body strongly supports the efforts of the
8 Working Group, welcomes its recommendations for a legislative
9 response to the urgent issues affecting the North Shore of Oahu,
10 and looks forward to considering whether the Working Group
11 provides a model process that may be helpful for other
12 vulnerable and at-risk coastal areas across Hawaii; now,
13 therefore,

14
15 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
16 Thirty-first Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
17 of 2022, the Senate concurring, that the City and County of
18 Honolulu is requested to lead community education workshops
19 regarding the recommendations of the North Shore Coastal
20 Resilience Working Group and seek public input from individuals
21 and organizations for the development of a comprehensive and
22 community-driven coastal resilience plan for the North Shore of
23 Oahu; and

24
25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the individuals and
26 organizations from which the City and County of Honolulu is
27 requested to seek public input include but are not limited to
28 residents of the North Shore of Oahu, lineal descendants of the
29 North Shore area of Oahu, Hawaiian civic clubs, 'āina-based
30 organizations, neighborhood boards, and cultural practitioners;
31 and

32
33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
34 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Mayor of the City
35 and County of Honolulu and Chairperson of the Honolulu City
36 Council.

37
38
39 OFFERED BY:



MAR 11 2022

