H.C.R. NO. 🦻

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING STATE LAW ENFORCEMENT ENTITIES, INCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, SHERIFF DIVISION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY, AND HARBORS DIVISION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, TO COLLABORATE WITH THE DIVISION OF CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO SUPPORT ITS MISSION.

WHEREAS, the Division of Conservation and Resources 1 Enforcement (DOCARE) of the Department of Land and Natural 2 Resources is responsible for enforcement activities for the 3 Department, including enforcement of all state laws and rules 4 involving state lands, state parks, historic sites, forest 5 reserves, aquatic life, wildlife areas, coastal zones, 6 conservation districts, and state shores, as well as county 7 ordinances involving county parks; and 8

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10 WHEREAS, the mission of DOCARE is to uphold the laws that 11 serve to protect, conserve, and manage Hawaii's unique and 12 limited natural, cultural, and historic resources held in public 13 trust for current and future generations of residents of, and 14 visitors to, Hawaii; and

16 WHEREAS, although DOCARE's jurisdiction covers state-owned 17 lands from the mountains to three miles offshore, DOCARE only 18 employs about one hundred officers across all the islands that 19 comprise Hawaii; and

21 WHEREAS, the State's natural resources are sacred and must 22 be protected in a manner that will allow them to be preserved 23 for the benefit and enjoyment of generations to come; and 24

25 WHEREAS, in a recent *Maui News* report, DOCARE Chief, Jason
26 Redulla, explained that "DOCARE has limited resources and cannot

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be everywhere all the time", and this limitation in resources 1 undermines the ability of DOCARE officials to fulfill its 2 3 mission; and 4 WHEREAS, a news report from the Sacramento Bee from January 5 2021 indicated that the Department of Land and Natural Resources 6 was forced to temporarily shut down Makena's Pu'u Ola'i "due to 7 large, illegal gatherings during the pandemic" involving 8 "nudity, illegal alcohol and other illicit substances"; and 9 10 WHEREAS, at Pokai Bay on Oahu, boats illegally harbored 11 close to shore have dumped their sewage into the water and 12 previously ignored requests to vacate, while offshore of 13 Kawaihae in Hawaii County, aquarium fish were illegally 14 harvested; and 15 16 WHEREAS, in addition to closures at Makena, the Department 17 of Land and Natural Resources has been forced to close certain 18 access points to Keawe'ula and Ka'ena Point State Park due to a 19 lack of trained staff available to provide management and 20 enforcement; and 21 22 WHEREAS, these areas all fall under the jurisdiction of 23 24 DOCARE, but because DOCARE is understaffed, there is a lack of enforcement presence; and 25 26 WHEREAS, as a focal industry for the State, tourism is 27 largely dependent on the availability and sustainability of the 28 29 State's natural resources; now, therefore, 30 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the 31 Thirty-first Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session 32 of 2022, the Senate concurring, that this body requests state 33 law enforcement entities, including the Department of the 34 Attorney General, Sheriff Division of the Department of Public 35 Safety, and Harbors Division of the Department of 36 Transportation, to collaborate with the Division of Conservation 37 and Resources Enforcement of the Department of Land and Natural 38 Resources to support its mission; and 39 40 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this 41 42 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Attorney General,

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Director of Public Safety, Director of Transportation, and Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources.

OFFERED BY Sinde & Clist

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