
HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE OFFICE OF PLANNING AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT'S ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW PROGRAM TO FORM A TASK FORCE TO RECOMMEND USER-FRIENDLY IMPROVEMENTS TO THE PROGRAM'S WEBSITE.

1 WHEREAS, the State, stakeholders, and public all benefit
2 when the environmental review process is transparent and open to
3 participation; and
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5 WHEREAS, currently, the public is often unaware of pending
6 projects until a final determination is made on an environmental
7 assessment or environmental impact statement and the opportunity
8 for public comment has passed; and
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10 WHEREAS, although the Office of Planning and Sustainable
11 Development's Environmental Review Program maintains a website
12 that informs the public of pending environmental impact
13 statements and environmental assessments, the website is not
14 user-friendly, making the information difficult to access; and
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16 WHEREAS, to encourage public participation in the
17 environmental review process, the program's website may benefit
18 from a notification system, an easily-accessible means of
19 submitting comments, a well-organized and searchable database of
20 environmental assessments and environmental impact statements,
21 and other user-friendly features; now, therefore
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23 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
24 Thirty-first Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
25 of 2022, that the Office of Planning and Sustainable
26 Development's Environmental Review Program is requested to form
27 a task force to recommend user-friendly improvements to the
28 program's website; and
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H.R. NO. 82

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is also
 2 requested to offer guidance on selecting documents and steps of
 3 the environmental review process to be posted on the program's
 4 website to best encourage public participation; and

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 6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Director of Planning and
 7 Sustainable Development is requested to select and invite the
 8 following members to participate on the task force:

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- 10 (1) Two representatives from the Office of Planning and
 - 11 Sustainable Development;
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 - 13 (2) Two representatives from the Environmental Advisory
 - 14 Council;
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 - 16 (3) The Chief Information Officer of the Office of
 - 17 Enterprise Technology Services or the Chief
 - 18 Information Officer's designee; and
 - 19
 - 20 (4) One representative from the Sierra Club; and
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22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to
 23 submit a report of its findings and recommendations, including
 24 any proposed legislation and the estimated cost of the proposed
 25 website updates, to the Legislature no later than twenty days
 26 prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2023; and

27
 28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 29 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of the Office of
 30 Planning and Sustainable Development, Chair of the Environmental
 31 Advisory Council, and the Chief Information Officer of the
 32 Office of Enterprise Technology Services.

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OFFERED BY:

James M. ...

 MAR 11 2022

