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 MAR 1 1 2022

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE ALLOCATION OF ADDITIONAL RESOURCES TO INCREASE POLICE PRESENCE ON THE WAI'ANAE COAST AND THE CREATION OF A NEW POLICE DISTRICT FOR WAI'ANAE THAT IS SEPARATE FROM KAPOLEI AND 'EWA.

WHEREAS, Wai'anae is one of the most historic and culturally rich areas of O'ahu; and

WHEREAS, the entire west side of O'ahu, including 'Ewa, Kapolei, Nanakuli, and Wai'anae, is growing in population; and

WHEREAS, a new police station opened in Wai'anae in May 2016, replacing the old station that was built in 1961; and

WHEREAS, the new police station has 25,172 square feet of space and fourteen holding cells and is more than three times the size of its predecessor; and

WHEREAS, an existing Wai'anae Community Policing Team focuses on crime reduction through prevention, reporting, and enforcement, as well as traffic safety awareness and enforcement, and attends neighborhood security watch patrols, community clean-ups, town halls, neighborhood boards, and other community functions; however, increased staffing and resources for the Wai'anae Coast Community Policing Team are warranted and are needed to serve the growing Wai'anae area and adequately manage the new police station; and

WHEREAS, population, security, safety, and infrastructure demands also favor separating the Wai'anae coast from 'Ewa and Kapolei, which are currently combined in the Honolulu Police Department's District 8, and creating a new district encompassing the area from Nanakuli through Ka'ena Point; and

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WHEREAS, according to the Honolulu Police Department Annual Report 2020, there were six murders, fifty-three rapes, one hundred fifteen robberies, two hundred forty-six aggravated assaults, four hundred forty-six burglaries, 2,823 larcenies, and four hundred ninety-one auto thefts reported in 2020 in District 8; and

WHEREAS, of the crimes reported, District 8 had the highest number of murders and aggravated assaults on O'ahu in 2020; and

WHEREAS, it is important to maintain the safety of Wai'anae residents, business owners, workers, and patrons and to protect their property and possessions; and

WHEREAS, concern about the recent increase in and severity of criminal activity has prompted local residents and business owners in Wai'anae to call for a greater police presence in the area; and

WHEREAS, increasing the visible presence of uniformed police officers would improve public safety by deterring criminal activity and providing more immediate assistance to victims once a crime has been committed; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-first Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2022, the House of Representatives concurring, that this body urges the allocation of additional resources to increase police presence on the Wai'anae coast and the creation of a new police district for Wai'anae that is separate from Kapolei and 'Ewa; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this body urges the new police district to include and be bounded by Nanakuli and Ka'ena Point; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this body urges an increase in staffing and resources for the Wai'anae Coast Community Policing Team; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Mayor of the City and County of Honolulu, Chair of the Honolulu City Council, and Interim Chief of the Honolulu Police Department.

OFFERED BY:

