S.R. NO. 78

MAR 1 1 2022

SENATE 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.

1 WHEREAS, Wai'anae is one of the most historic and culturally 2 rich areas of O'ahu; and 3 WHEREAS, the entire west side of O'ahu, including 'Ewa, 4 5 Kapolei, Nanakuli, and Wai'anae, is growing in population; and 6 7 WHEREAS, a new police station opened in Wai'anae in May 2016, replacing the old station that was built in 1961; and 8 9 WHEREAS, the new police station has 25,172 square feet of 10 11 space and fourteen holding cells and is more than three times the size of its predecessor; and 12 13 14 WHEREAS, an existing Wai'anae Community Policing Team focuses on crime reduction through prevention, reporting, and 15 16 enforcement, as well as traffic safety awareness and enforcement, and attends neighborhood security watch patrols, 17 18 community clean-ups, town halls, neighborhood boards, and other community functions; however, increased staffing and resources 19 for the Wai'anae Coast Community Policing Team are warranted and 20 are needed to serve the growing Wai'anae area and adequately 21 manage the new police station; and 22 23 WHEREAS, population, security, safety, and infrastructure 24 demands also favor separating the Wai'anae coast from 'Ewa and 25 26 Kapolei, which are currently combined in the Honolulu Police 27 Department's District 8, and creating a new district encompassing the area from Nanakuli through Ka'ena Point; and 28 29

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1 WHEREAS, according to the Honolulu Police Department Annual Report 2020, there were six murders, fifty-three rapes, one 2 hundred fifteen robberies, two hundred forty-six aggravated 3 assaults, four hundred forty-six burglaries, 2,823 larcenies, 4 5 and four hundred ninety-one auto thefts reported in 2020 in District 8; and 6 7 8 WHEREAS, of the crimes reported, District 8 had the highest 9 number of murders and aggravated assaults on O'ahu in 2020; and 10 WHEREAS, it is important to maintain the safety of Wai'anae 11 residents, business owners, workers, and patrons and to protect 12 their property and possessions; and 13 14 15 WHEREAS, concern about the recent increase in and severity 16 of criminal activity has prompted local residents and business owners in Wai'anae to call for a greater police presence in the 17 area; and 18 19 WHEREAS, increasing the visible presence of uniformed 20 police officers would improve public safety by deterring 21 22 criminal activity and providing more immediate assistance to victims once a crime has been committed; now, therefore, 23 24 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-first 25 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2022, 26 that this body urges the allocation of additional resources to 27 increase police presence on the Wai'anae coast and the creation 28 of a new police district for Wai'anae that is separate from 29 30 Kapolei and 'Ewa; and 31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this body urges the new police 32 district to include and be bounded by Nanakuli and Ka'ena Point; 33 and 34 35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this body urges an increase in 36 staffing and resources for the Wai'anae Coast Community Policing 37 Team; and 38 39 40 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Mayor of the City and County of 41

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