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## HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO IDENTIFY ALL STATE AND COUNTY ROADS, LANDMARKS, MONUMENTS, AND PUBLIC PARKS THAT USE THE NAME "DIAMOND HEAD" AND IDENTIFY THE PROCESS FOR RENAMING THESE ROADS, LANDMARKS, MONUMENTS, AND PUBLIC PARKS FROM "DIAMOND HEAD" TO "LĒ'AHĪ".

1           WHEREAS, Lē'ahi, or Diamond Head, is the most identifiable  
2 landmark in Hawai'i; and

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4           WHEREAS, Lē'ahi was formed more than one hundred thousand  
5 years ago by violent steam explosions that contributed to the  
6 construction of the Hawaiian Islands; and

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8           WHEREAS, Lē'ahi has been known by many names over the years;  
9 and

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11           WHEREAS, the earliest recorded reference to Lē'ahi was Lae-  
12 ahi, as the mountain was compared by Hi'iaka, the younger sister  
13 of Pele, to the brow of the ahi fish; and

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15           WHEREAS, the name was later condensed to Lē'ahi; and

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17           WHEREAS, in the early 1800s, British sailors found calcite  
18 crystals in the rocks on the slopes of Lē'ahi and thought they  
19 were diamonds; and

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21           WHEREAS, following the discovery Lē'ahi crater was also  
22 referred to as Kaimana-Hila, or "Diamond Hill"; and

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24           WHEREAS, Lē'ahi crater has been used as a strategic military  
25 lookout beginning in the 1900s and was named a National Natural  
26 Landmark in 1968; and

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28           WHEREAS, today, the Lē'ahi trail is enjoyed by hundreds of  
29 thousands of visitors each year; and



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WHEREAS, the Hawai'i Tourism Authority's mission is to "strategically manage Hawai'i tourism in a sustainable manner consistent with economic goals, cultural values, preservation of natural resources, community desires, and visitor industry needs"; and

WHEREAS, the Hawai'i Tourism Authority's most recent strategic plan establishes a goal to support Native Hawaiian culture and the community "through genuine experiences for both visitors and residents"; and

WHEREAS, as a strategic choice to achieve this goal, the Hawai'i Tourism Authority ensures an increased emphasis to the Hawaiian language by preserving language resources past and present and encouraging appropriate use of the language; and

WHEREAS, due to the rich cultural history surrounding Lē'ahi and the Hawai'i Tourism Authority's commitment to encourage the appropriate use of the Hawaiian language, it is only appropriate to properly reference the landmark by its Hawaiian name; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Thirty-second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2023, that the Department of Land and Natural Resources is requested to identify all state and county roads, landmarks, monuments, and public parks that use the name "Diamond Head" and identify the process for renaming these roads, landmarks, monuments, and public parks from "Diamond Head" to "Lē'ahi"; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Land and Natural Resources is requested to submit a report of its findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2024; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources.



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OFFERED BY:

*Kurti Jal*  
MAR 10 2023

