
HOUSE RESOLUTION

URGING THE MAYORS AND COUNCILS OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF
HONOLULU, COUNTY OF MAUI, COUNTY OF HAWAII, AND COUNTY OF
KAUAI TO ESTABLISH BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICTS.

1 WHEREAS, business improvement districts are economic
2 development organizations that bring public services to certain
3 neighborhoods to provide governmental public services; and
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5 WHEREAS, business improvement districts are approved by
6 state legislation and funded by assessment fees paid by
7 merchants and property owners within the district; and
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9 WHEREAS, business improvement districts are managed by
10 public or nonprofit boards, predominantly with local business
11 representation, but also commonly include representation from
12 area residents and local governments; and
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14 WHEREAS, business improvement districts create collective
15 economic benefits for their members that cannot be achieved on
16 an individual basis, including providing sanitation, enhanced
17 security, capital improvements, neighborhood promotions, and
18 business attraction, such as leading marketing campaigns to
19 attract commercial tenants, customers, tourists, and investors;
20 and
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22 WHEREAS, successful business improvement districts occurs
23 when services match the needs of the people in that district,
24 which can only be used to fund local improvements that provide
25 benefits within the designated district; and
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27 WHEREAS, Act 107, Session Laws of Hawaii 1999, codified as
28 section 46-80.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, authorizes the
29 counties to create special improvement districts for the
30 purposes of providing, financing, and coordinating federal,
31 state, and county efforts to engage in:
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- 1 (1) Supplemental maintenance and security services;
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- 3 (2) Environmental research, restoration, and maintenance;
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- 5 (3) Natural resource management;
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- 7 (4) Natural hazard mitigation;
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- 9 (5) Climate change and sea level rise adaptation; and
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- 11 (6) Other improvements, services, and facilities within
- 12 the special improvement districts that will improve
- 13 environmental conditions, provide community benefits,
- 14 and restore or promote business activity in the
- 15 special improvement districts and the making and
- 16 financing of improvements within those districts; and
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18 WHEREAS, the State has business improvement districts in
 19 Chinatown, Fort Street Mall, and Waikiki on Oahu; Hilo, Hawaii;
 20 and Kailua-Kona, Hawaii; and

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 22 WHEREAS, the Chinatown Improvement District has been
 23 operating since 2010 and works to improve conditions in the
 24 greater Chinatown area and encourage and promote the
 25 preservation and enhancement of the ethnic, cultural, and
 26 historical character and significance of Chinatown; and

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 28 WHEREAS, the Waikiki Business Improvement District was
 29 authorized and established in 2000 and is managed by the Waikiki-
 30 Business Improvement District Association, which works in
 31 partnership with business and government to develop and
 32 implement programs that will strengthen the physical and
 33 economic vitality of Waikiki and help maintain its position as a
 34 world class resort designation; and

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 36 WHEREAS, the Fort Street Mall Business Improvement District
 37 was signed into law in 2002 and was patterned after the Waikiki
 38 Business Improvement District; and

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 40 WHEREAS, the Hilo Downtown Improvement Association was
 41 founded more than forty years ago to revitalize and reestablish
 42 historic downtown Hilo as the social, cultural and commercial



1 center of East Hawaii and works with its founding partners and
2 the County of Hawaii to protect, preserve, and create a vibrant
3 downtown Hilo enjoyable for all; and

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5 WHEREAS, the Kailua Village Business Improvement District
6 was established in 2007 with a mission to make Historic Kailua
7 Village a sustainable model for a community that is a better
8 place to invest, work, live, and play; and

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10 WHEREAS, business improvement districts help improve
11 services that are provided by the municipality and increase the
12 quality and efficiency of outcomes usually required of
13 businesses, and can have a significant positive impact on
14 commercial property values; and

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16 WHEREAS, establishing more business improvement districts
17 throughout Hawaii can increase the vitality and attractiveness
18 of communities in the State; now, therefore,

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20 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
21 Thirty-second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
22 Session of 2023, that the Mayors and Councils of the City and
23 County of Honolulu, County of Maui, County of Hawaii, and County
24 of Kauai are urged to establish business improvement districts
25 within their respective counties; and

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27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
28 Resolution be transmitted to the Mayor of the City and County of
29 Honolulu, Mayor of the County of Maui, Mayor of the County of
30 Hawaii, Mayor of the County of Kauai, Chairperson of the
31 Honolulu City Council, Chairperson of the Maui County Council,
32 Chairperson of the Hawaii County Council, and Chairperson of the
33 Kauai County Council.

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OFFERED BY:

Trish LaChica

MAR 10 2023

