HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING A FEASIBILITY STUDY ON REDEVELOPING LANDS SITUATED AT TMK (1) 2-8-015:001 INTO WORKFORCE HOUSING AND OTHER AFFILIATED USES.

WHEREAS, the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism estimates that Hawaii will need between approximately twenty-six thousand to forty-seven thousand new housing units prior to 2030 to address the critical shortage of housing; and

WHEREAS, the continuing lack of sufficient supply or inventory of workforce housing will worsen the shortage of housing every year as the demand for housing will continue to grow more rapidly than new supply is available; and

WHEREAS, if the State fails to address this housing crisis, more residents will be forced to move away from Hawaii to obtain housing they can afford; and

WHEREAS, state agencies could help to address the housing crisis by providing suitable lands available for the development of affordable housing, including workforce housing, on properties that those agencies are planning to redevelop; and

WHEREAS, the University of Hawaii has started the initial stages for plans to repurpose some of its real estate, including its lands situated adjacent to the University of Hawaii at Manoa campus (TMK (1) 2-8-015:001) where the College of Education is currently located; and

WHEREAS, the University of Hawaii has stated that its plans at TMK (1) 2-8-015:001 include demolishing a building previously used by the Public Broadcasting Station located on the property and relocating the College of Education, both projects of which have been appropriated funds by the Legislature; and

WHEREAS, the University of Hawaii has announced its plans to eventually relocate the University of Hawaii Children's Center from TMK (1) 2-8-015:001 to a different site; and

WHEREAS, the University Laboratory School is a public charter school located on TMK (1) 2-8-015:001 that is not a program of the University of Hawaii, but has been affiliated with the University of Hawaii in the past; and

 WHEREAS, the University of Hawaii's plans to repurpose TMK (1) 2-8-015:001 should include redevelopment to provide workforce housing that would help to address the housing needs of the community, as well as increase amenities for the surrounding properties and enhance the surrounding neighborhood; and

WHEREAS, providing concepts and plans publicly as early as possible would be very helpful and useful to programs and organizations that currently utilize TMK (1) 2-8-015:001 as well as surrounding properties; 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 University of Hawaii, in consultation with the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation, or any other appropriate state agency, is requested to conduct a feasibility study on redeveloping lands situated at TMK (1) 2-8-015:001 into workforce housing and other affiliated uses; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the feasibility study is requested to be conducted in cooperation with any appropriate state agency that will be affected by the study or may be instrumental in completing the study; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the University of Hawaii, in consultation with the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation, or any other appropriate state agency, is requested to include in the study a conceptual development plan that may include a market study to redevelop the parcel, along with the steps needed for such development; and

 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the University of Hawaii is requested to submit a report on the feasibility study to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2025; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Executive Director of the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation, President of the University of Hawaii, Provost of the University of Hawaii at Manoa, Vice President for Administration of the University of Hawaii System, and Vice President for Budget and Finance and Chief Financial Officer of the University of Hawaii System.