

MAR 10 2023

SENATE RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES TO
PROVIDE MAINTENANCE SERVICES AT SUNSET MEMORIAL PARK AND
DEVELOP A PLAN FOR THE STATE TO TAKE OWNERSHIP OF SUNSET
MEMORIAL PARK.

1 WHEREAS, Sunset Memorial Park, located in Pearl City on
2 Oahu, is currently in a state of legal uncertainty as the
3 company that owned the cemetery involuntarily dissolved in 2006
4 and the company's owner passed away in 2011; and

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6 WHEREAS, as a result, Sunset Memorial Park has been
7 neglected for years, leading to safety concerns for persons
8 whose family members are buried at the cemetery; and

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10 WHEREAS, sunken graves and overgrown vegetation can make it
11 difficult for family members to find the sites where loved ones
12 were buried at Sunset Memorial Park; and

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14 WHEREAS, Sunset Memorial Park has also been the subject of
15 vandalism, with thieves displacing ashes from copper urns and
16 encampments of homeless people accidentally setting fires to the
17 area; and

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19 WHEREAS, with no owner to take responsibility over the
20 cemetery, Sunset Memorial Park currently relies on volunteers to
21 maintain the cemetery; and

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23 WHEREAS, however, without proper financing, the condition
24 of Sunset Memorial Park continues to worsen; and

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26 WHEREAS, despite Sunset Memorial Park being licensed and
27 having a trust fund balance of \$168,000, legal issues prevent
28 access to that money; and

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30 WHEREAS, the State must step up to provide maintenance at
31 Sunset Memorial Park to prevent further irreversible damage to
32 the cemetery and the remains of persons who are interred there;
33 now, therefore,
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S.R. NO. 176

1 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-second
2 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2023,
3 that the Department of Accounting and General Services is urged
4 to provide maintenance services at Sunset Memorial Park; and
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6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Accounting
7 and General Services is urged to develop a plan for the State to
8 take ownership of Sunset Memorial Park; and
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10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
11 Resolution be transmitted to the Comptroller and the Chairperson
12 of the Pearl City Neighborhood Board No. 21.
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OFFERED BY: _____

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'NOA', is written over a horizontal line.