

MAR 10 2023

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# SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES STATE  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION DIVISION TO NOMINATE KAWAINUI MARSH  
TO BE DESIGNATED AS A NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK.

1 WHEREAS, Kawainui Marsh is a historically significant site  
2 that illustrates the cultural, agricultural, and ecological  
3 practices of Native Hawaiians; and  
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5 WHEREAS, Kawainui Marsh is the largest remaining wetland  
6 and largest ancient freshwater fishpond in the State; and  
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8 WHEREAS, Kawainui Marsh was one of the first places in the  
9 State to be settled by the ancestors of Native Hawaiians; and  
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11 WHEREAS, before European contact, Kawainui Marsh was a  
12 thriving loko ia kalo, or freshwater taro fishpond, where Native  
13 Hawaiians cultivated fish and grew taro to sustain the  
14 surrounding community; and  
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16 WHEREAS, Native Hawaiians developed and used advanced  
17 aquacultural and agricultural innovations at the ancient loko ia  
18 kalo that once flourished at Kawainui Marsh; and  
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20 WHEREAS, Kawainui Marsh includes at least three significant  
21 heiau, including Ulupo, which is listed on the National Register  
22 of Historic Places for its noted cultural value; and  
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24 WHEREAS, Kawainui Marsh is an important habitat for native  
25 water birds, including endangered species like the aeo, alae  
26 ula, alae kea, and koloa; and  
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28 WHEREAS, national recognition of Kawainui Marsh would draw  
29 attention to the agricultural achievements of Native Hawaiians  
30 and commemorate the broader history of Oahu's windward coast;  
31 and  
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33 WHEREAS, National Historic Landmarks are sites determined  
34 by the Secretary of the Interior to be nationally significant in  
35 American history and culture; and



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WHEREAS, National Historic Landmarks receive many benefits from the federal government, including access to federal funds and additional forms of maintenance assistance; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the State to preserve the proud history of Kawainui Marsh by working towards a National Historic Landmark designation; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2023; that the Department of Land and Natural Resources State Historic Preservation Division is requested to nominate Kawainui Marsh to be designated as a National Historic Landmark; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources and Administrator of the State Historic Preservation Division.

OFFERED BY:

