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HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO IDENTIFY ALL APPROPRIATE SITES AT STATE PARKS AT WHICH A WATER-BOTTLE FILLING STATION COULD BE INSTALLED.

WHEREAS, drinking water is a vital necessity for individuals and should be readily accessible for those enjoying Hawaii's state parks, where parkgoers are active and subject to sun exposure; and

WHEREAS, single-use plastic beverage containers contribute to environmental degradation and pollution of state parks and adjacent marine environments; and

WHEREAS, many Hawaii residents have developed the habit of carrying refillable water bottles with them to protect the environment and to save money by avoiding the purchase of beverages; and

WHEREAS, a decrease in the use of plastic water bottles also reduces the amount of public expenditures incurred from shipping them to an off-island treatment and processing facility for recycling; and

WHEREAS, a grant was awarded in 2018 by the Marine Debris Program of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to the Department of Land and Natural Resources, resulting in the purchase and implementation of nineteen water-bottle filling stations in three different styles in state parks across Kauai, Oahu, Maui, and Hawaii island; and

WHEREAS, Hawaii has fifty-one state parks, many of which are large and can benefit from additional water-bottle filling stations; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Thirty-second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular

Session of 2024, that the Department of Land and Natural Resources is requested to identify all appropriate sites at state parks at which a water-bottle filling station could be installed, including those where infrastructure for water hookups is already present; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Land and Natural Resources is requested to consider multiple sites for water-bottle filling stations at large state parks; and

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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: h