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HOUSE RESOLUTION

ENCOURAGING THE HAWAII PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITY TO CREATE GREEN SPACES FOR FOOD PRODUCTION, CULTURAL ACTIVITIES, AND CLIMATE RESILIENCE; CONSIDER ACTIONS THAT ALLOW FOR INGROUND PLANTING, RESIDENT USE OF GREEN SPACES, FACILITATED COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT, SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE, AND CLIMATERESILIENT LANDSCAPES; AND CONSIDER THE PROVISION OF TECHNICAL AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.

WHEREAS, the Hawaii Public Housing Authority's policies prohibit in-ground planting and restrict access to underutilized green spaces; and

WHEREAS, public housing residents should be empowered to utilize green spaces for food production, cultural activities, and the development of climate-resilient and welcoming natural spaces; and

WHEREAS, such utilization of green spaces can enhance community resilience, foster cultural preservation, promote sustainable food systems, and contribute to environmental stewardship; and

WHEREAS, this body recognizes the importance of community-driven initiatives in fostering a sense of ownership and stewardship over local environments; 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 Hawaii Public Housing Authority is encouraged to create green spaces for food production, cultural activities, and climate resilience; consider actions that allow for in-ground planting, resident use of green spaces, facilitated community engagement, sustainable agriculture, and climate-resilient landscapes; and consider the provision of technical and financial assistance; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hawaii Public Housing Authority is requested to undertake the necessary actions to implement the recommendations outlined in this measure, in collaboration with community organizations, local stakeholders, project residents, and indigenous communities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hawaii Public Housing Authority is urged to create opportunities for residents to use green spaces to grow food, conduct cultural activities, and develop climate-resilient and welcoming natural spaces; and

 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Governor; Chairperson of the Board of Agriculture; Executive Director of the Hawaii Public Housing Authority; University of Hawaii at Manoa College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources Cooperative Extension; Hawaii Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission; and county boards or departments of water.