HOUSE RESOLUTION

STRONGLY URGING THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU TO RECONSIDER USING THE WAIPĪO SOCCER COMPLEX AS ITS NEXT LANDFILL SITE.

WHEREAS, the Waipīo Soccer Complex serves as a crucial hub for sports and recreational activities, providing opportunities for the community to engage in physical fitness and social interaction; and

WHEREAS, the Waipīo Soccer Complex is situated in a location of significant environmental importance, boasting diverse ecosystems and natural habitats that contribute to the ecological balance of the region; and

WHEREAS, concerns have been raised regarding the City and County of Honolulu's proposal to convert the Waipīo Soccer Complex into the next landfill site for the island of Oahu; and

WHEREAS, since media coverage about the Waipīo Soccer Complex's becoming a top choice as the site of the City and County of Honolulu's next landfill, residents from not only Waipahū but also other areas of Oahu have expressed strong concerns about losing the soccer park and locating a landfill near homes; and

WHEREAS, the conversion of the Waipīo Soccer Complex into a landfill site would pose detrimental effects on the environment, including soil contamination, air pollution, and disruption of wildlife habitats, including nearby marine and wetland habitats; and

 WHEREAS, the establishment of a landfill at the Waipīo Soccer Complex would adversely affect the health and well-being of nearby residents, exposing them to potential hazards associated with waste-disposal activities, such as odors, noise, and increased traffic congestion; and

 WHEREAS, Waipahu High School, which is located in close proximity to the Waipīo Soccer Complex, would be significantly affected by the presence of a landfill, potentially exposing students, faculty, and staff to health risks and environmental hazards; and

WHEREAS, there exist alternative sites for landfill development that are less ecologically sensitive and more suitable for accommodating waste-management needs without compromising the integrity of recreational spaces and natural environments; and

WHEREAS, it is the duty of the City and County of Honolulu to prioritize the long-term sustainability and preservation of natural resources for the benefit of current and future generations of Oahu residents; 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 City and County of Honolulu is strongly urged to reconsider using the Waipīo Soccer Complex as its next landfill site; and

 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City and County of Honolulu is strongly encouraged to explore alternative solutions for waste management that do not involve the conversion of recreational and environmentally significant areas into landfill sites; and

 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the State of Hawaii is strongly urged to collaborate with the City and County of Honolulu and other relevant stakeholders in identifying and implementing sustainable waste-management practices that uphold environmental conservation, public health, and community well-being; and

 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Mayor of the City and County of Honolulu, and all members of the Honolulu City Council.