MAR 0 8 2024

SENATE RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO REQUIRE ALL CERTIFIED ARBORISTS IN ITS EMPLOY TO ADHERE TO INDUSTRY BEST PRACTICES.

WHEREAS, trees are essential for improving soil health and building climate resiliency; and

WHEREAS, trees absorb carbon dioxide and supply oxygen, lower air temperatures, provide shade and shelter, stabilize soil, prevent soil erosion, support the capture and conservation of the State's water supply, help remediate pollutants, and cut down on noise pollution by acting as sound barriers; and

WHEREAS, the standards and best practices of the tree care industry not only reflect the knowledge of specialists in the field and the latest in research findings, but also raise the 12 level of professionalism and public confidence in the field of tree care; and

WHEREAS, certified arborists, or professional individuals who are equipped to plant, prune, transplant, fertilize, monitor and treat for insects and diseases, and remove trees and other woody plants, have an obligation to perform work that meets these industry standards and best practices; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to section 26-15, Hawaii Revised Statutes, the Department of Land and Natural Resources has the duty to manage and administer the public lands of the State, including the soil conservation function and all activities on and within the forests, forest reserves, and state parks, and to promote the conservation, development, and utilization of forests, including forest reserves; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2024, that the Department of Land and Natural Resources is urged to require all certified arborists in its employ to adhere to industry best practices; 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.

OFFERED BY: