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# HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE, UNITED STATES ARMY, UNITED STATES NAVY, AND STATE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO WORK WITH APPROPRIATE STATE AND COUNTY DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES TO EXPAND, PLAN, AND COORDINATE WORK RELATED TO USING KOLEKOLE PASS AS AN EXPANDED EMERGENCY EXIT ROUTE.

1           WHEREAS, Kolekole Pass, a historically significant and  
2 strategically located corridor through the Wai'anae mountain  
3 range in Nānākuli has long been recognized as a potential  
4 emergency evacuation route connecting the Leeward Coast to  
5 Central Oahu;  
6 and  
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8           WHEREAS, Kolekole Pass has been used historically for  
9 military operations and has played an important role in Hawaii's  
10 history, including serving as a critical route for military and  
11 emergency access; and  
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13           WHEREAS, recent natural disasters, including the fires on  
14 Maui, have underscored the necessity of maintaining alternative  
15 evacuation routes to ensure the safety of residents in  
16 vulnerable communities; and  
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18           WHEREAS, the Westside of O'ahu faces limited road access,  
19 with Farrington Highway serving as the primary roadway for  
20 thousands of residents, leaving communities vulnerable to  
21 dangerous gridlocks during emergencies; and  
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23           WHEREAS, the military has conducted multiple exercises in  
24 coordination with federal, state, and county agencies to  
25 evaluate the feasibility of Kolekole Pass as an emergency  
26 evacuation route, including full-scale exercises in February  
27 2025, that tested its viability for civilian use; and



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WHEREAS, recent discussions between military and civilian leadership have indicated a willingness to consider Kolekole Pass for public use in emergency situations; provided appropriate planning, maintenance, and coordination are in place; and

WHEREAS, the coordination of multiple federal, state, and county agencies is necessary to implement infrastructure improvements and establish protocols for civilian use of Kolekole Pass in emergencies; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Thirty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2025, the Senate concurring, that the United States Department of Defense, United States Army, United States Navy, and State Department of Transportation are requested to work with appropriate state and county departments and agencies to expand, plan, and coordinate work to prepare and secure Kolekole Pass as an expanded emergency exit route for residents on the Westside of O'ahu in the event of dangerous gridlocks, natural disasters, or unforeseen catastrophic emergencies; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the United States Secretary of Defense, Chief of Staff of the Army, Chief of Naval Operations, members of Hawaii's congressional delegation, Governor, Director of Transportation, and Administrator of Emergency Management for the City and County of Honolulu.



OFFERED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

MAR 07 2025

