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# HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE GOVERNOR, STATE BUILDING CODE COUNCIL, PLANNING DEPARTMENTS OF EACH COUNTY, MAYORS OF EACH COUNTY, AND CHAIRS OF THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STANDING COMMITTEES ON HOUSING TO DEVELOP A COMPREHENSIVE STRATEGY FOR ADOPTING UPDATED BUILDING CODES.

1 WHEREAS, building codes are a multi-tiered set of rules and  
2 standards at the federal, state, and local levels that govern  
3 construction to safeguard public safety and the longevity of  
4 infrastructure; and

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6 WHEREAS, increasingly frequent natural disasters make  
7 constructing resilient, stable structures of vital importance to  
8 public safety; and

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10 WHEREAS, the State's building codes are governed by  
11 multiple bodies, including the State Building Code Council,  
12 county-level planning departments, and the Legislature; and

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14 WHEREAS, Governor Josh Green's 2023 Proclamation Relating  
15 to Affordable Housing sought to fast track the construction of  
16 housing, especially on Maui, but has had the unintended  
17 consequence of suspending the State Building Code Council and  
18 adopting unamended building codes formulated by the  
19 International Code Council; and

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21 WHEREAS, as many of the unamended codes do not apply to the  
22 State, such as those for snow, Governor Green issued another  
23 proclamation allowing counties not to abide by the 2021 building  
24 code, meaning contractors now face unclear directives that  
25 jeopardize construction and public safety; and

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27 WHEREAS, the State's building codes must now be amended to  
28 comply with national standards, offer contractors clarity, and



1 reflect local issues and updated best practices for expedient,  
2 safe construction; now, therefore,  
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4 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
5 Thirty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
6 of 2025, the Senate concurring, that the Office of the Governor,  
7 State Building Code Council, Building Departments of each  
8 county, Mayors of each county, and Chairs of the standing  
9 committees on Housing in the Senate and House of Representatives  
10 are urged to develop a comprehensive strategy for the statewide  
11 adoption of updated building codes; and  
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13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the comprehensive strategy is  
14 requested to be formulated through stakeholder engagement and  
15 address the feasibility of compliance with updated codes; and  
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17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the comprehensive strategy is  
18 urged to include requests to reinstate and adequately fund the  
19 State Building Code Council so it can resume its mandate  
20 effectively; and  
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22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
23 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor; Chair of  
24 the State Building Code Council; Mayor of the County of Hawaii;  
25 Mayor of the County of Maui; Mayor of the County of Kauai; Mayor  
26 of the City and County of Honolulu; Director of the Planning  
27 Department of the County of Hawaii; Director of the Planning  
28 Department of the County of Maui; Director of the Planning  
29 Department of the County of Kauai; and Director of the  
30 Department of Planning and Permitting of the City and County of  
31 Honolulu.

