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# SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO CONVENE A WORKING GROUP  
TO ASSESS THE FEASIBILITY OF ALLOWING BUSINESS OWNERS IN  
THE STATE TO UTILIZE FILTERED WATER COLLECTED BY WATER  
CATCHMENT SYSTEMS FOR BUSINESS ACTIVITIES.

1 WHEREAS, there is an imminent potable water shortage threat  
2 that has left many individuals across the State without direct  
3 or convenient access to safe drinking water; and  
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5 WHEREAS, due to recent high-profile petroleum leaks coupled  
6 with drought conditions, the Board of Water Supply of the City  
7 and County of Honolulu was forced to take precautionary measures  
8 and shut down the Hālawā Shaft, Hālawā Wells, and Aiea Wells,  
9 further restricting access to potable water for local  
10 communities; and  
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12 WHEREAS, access to water is a prerequisite to addressing  
13 many of the State's current problems relating to developing  
14 affordable housing, empowering local businesses, diversifying  
15 the economy, and improving the economic stability of the State's  
16 most vulnerable residents; and  
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18 WHEREAS, pursuing innovative solutions to decrease use of  
19 the State's limited aquifers is critical to addressing the  
20 fragility of the State's water system; and  
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22 WHEREAS, water catchment systems are one innovative  
23 solution that can supplement potable water systems and conserve  
24 natural resources by efficiently capturing and utilizing  
25 rainwater while maintaining existing state water infrastructure,  
26 including both municipal water and stormwater systems; and  
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28 WHEREAS, while a significant number of people in the State  
29 are dependent on rainwater catchment as their primary domestic  
30 water source, existing law allows captured water for personal



1 use only and prohibits the use of captured water for business  
2 activities; and

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4 WHEREAS, revised guidelines from the College of Tropical  
5 Agriculture and Human Resiliency at the University of Hawai'i at  
6 Manoa outline a safe process for utilizing water captured for  
7 personal use that can be appropriately applied to business  
8 activities under certain regulatory conditions; and

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10 WHEREAS, studying the feasibility of allowing business  
11 owners in the State to utilize filtered water collected by water  
12 catchment systems for business activities is critical to  
13 decrease Hawaii's dependency upon stressed aquifer and water  
14 systems and assist in the diversification of the State's water  
15 sources; now, therefore,

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17 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-third  
18 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2025, the  
19 House of Representatives concurring, that the Department of  
20 Health is requested to convene a Business Activity Water  
21 Catchment System Working Group; and

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23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested  
24 to consist of the following members:

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26 (1) Director of Health, or the Director's designee, who is  
27 requested to serve as chairperson of the working  
28 group;

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30 (2) One member of the Senate, appointed by the President  
31 of the Senate;

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33 (3) One member of the House of Representatives, appointed  
34 by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;

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36 (4) Chairperson of the Board of Agriculture, or the  
37 Chairperson's designee;

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39 (5) One representative from each county's board or  
40 department of water supply or department of water;

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1 (6) One member representing the public, appointed or  
2 invited by the President of the Senate; and  
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4 (7) One member representing the public, appointed or  
5 invited by the Speaker of the House of  
6 Representatives; and  
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8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested  
9 to assess and make recommendations on:  
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11 (1) The feasibility of allowing business owners in the  
12 State to utilize filtered water collected by water  
13 catchment systems for business activities, including  
14 the types and sizes of businesses that are best suited  
15 to implement water catchment systems for business  
16 activities;  
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18 (2) The feasibility of establishing a Business Activity  
19 Water Catchment System Testing Program within the  
20 Department of Health that provides or otherwise  
21 assists business owners in conducting annual testing  
22 of filtered water produced from a water catchment  
23 system for business activities, including determining  
24 the types of chemicals or substances, in addition to  
25 lead and copper, that need to be tested to ensure the  
26 safety of the filtered water for business activities;  
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28 (3) How the State and counties can cooperate in ensuring  
29 that water catchment systems utilized for business  
30 activities are in compliance with applicable plumbing  
31 codes; and  
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33 (4) Possible means by which the State can assist business  
34 owners in safely utilizing filtered water from a water  
35 catchment system for business activities; and  
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37 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Business Activity Water  
38 Catchment System Working Group is requested to report its  
39 findings and recommendations, including any proposed  
40 legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior  
41 to the convening of the Regular Session of 2027; and  
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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Business Activity Water  
2 Catchment System Working Group is requested to dissolve on  
3 June 30, 2027; and  
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5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
6 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Health,  
7 President of the Senate, Speaker of the House of  
8 Representatives, Chairperson of the Board of Agriculture, Mayors  
9 of each county, Manager and Chief Engineer of the Board of Water  
10 Supply of the City and County of Honolulu, Director of the  
11 Department of Water Supply of the County of Maui, Manager-Chief  
12 Engineer of the Department of Water Supply of the County of  
13 Hawaii, and Manager and Chief Engineer of the Department of  
14 Water of the County of Kauai.

