

MAR 07 2025

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE LEGISLATURE TO ADVANCE LEGISLATION AND SUPPORT
POLICIES THAT SAFEGUARD INDIVIDUALS IN THE AGRICULTURAL
COMMUNITY, THEIR FAMILIES, THEIR LIVESTOCK AND OTHER
PROPERTY, AND OTHER INDIVIDUALS UNDER THEIR EMPLOYMENT OR
CARE BY AMENDING THE STATE'S SELF-DEFENSE LAWS TO
DEPRIORITIZE THE DUTY TO RETREAT IN CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES.

1 WHEREAS, the tragic death in 2024 of local rancher Cranston
2 Duke Pia (Pia) brought national, critical attention to an issue
3 disproportionately affecting agricultural workers; and
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5 WHEREAS, Pia was fatally shot in front of his mother in a
6 confrontation with an intruder, whose dogs were attacking Pia's
7 cattle; and
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9 WHEREAS, this incident was not only a personal tragedy and
10 loss for Pia's family and community but also raised broader
11 questions about the risks agricultural workers face,
12 particularly in remote and isolated locations; and
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14 WHEREAS, this incident also served as a stark reminder of
15 the vulnerabilities inherent in the agricultural sector and
16 ignited debates about the sufficiency of Hawaii's current legal
17 protections for individuals defending their property and lives
18 under similar circumstances; and
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20 WHEREAS, stand your ground laws, which eliminate the duty
21 to retreat before using force in self-defense in certain spaces,
22 have been enacted in twenty-six states; and
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24 WHEREAS, the Legislature recognizes that the intent of King
25 Kamehameha I's version of a stand your ground law is embodied in
26 his Law of the Splintered Paddle, which has been adopted and
27 incorporated into the Hawaii State Constitution; and
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