
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE LAND USE COMMISSION TO COORDINATE WITH COUNTY
PLANNING COMMISSIONS AND COUNTY COUNCILS TO CONDUCT
CONCURRENT REVIEWS OF GENERAL PLAN AMENDMENTS, DISTRICT
BOUNDARY AMENDMENTS, AND ZONING AMENDMENTS WHEN
RECLASSIFYING LAND.

1 WHEREAS, the Land Use Commission is responsible for
2 classifying all lands in the State into urban, rural,
3 agricultural, or conservation districts; and
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5 WHEREAS, the counties are responsible for overseeing
6 planning and zoning under their respective general plans and
7 zoning ordinances, which must align with and implement state
8 land use districts; and
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10 WHEREAS, any significant change in land use requires a
11 three-step process that involves:
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- 13 (1) A general plan amendment, which is a county-level
14 process;
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16 (2) A state district boundary amendment, which is either a
17 Land Use Commission process or, if the land in
18 question is below a certain acreage threshold, a
19 county-level process; and
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21 (3) A county zoning amendment, which is a county-level
22 process to implement the updated general plan and land
23 use district; and
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25 WHEREAS, under the existing land reclassification system,
26 each amendment is processed separately and sequentially,
27 resulting in multiple review periods and public hearings that
28 can take months or even years to complete; and



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2 WHEREAS, this protracted review timeline poses challenges
3 for landowners, businesses, and government agencies seeking to
4 address housing, infrastructure, economic development, and
5 environmental management needs in a timely manner; and
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7 WHEREAS, more efficient coordination and scheduling between
8 the Land Use Commission, county planning commissions, and county
9 councils will significantly expedite the overall land
10 reclassification process, reduce redundancy, and improve public
11 engagement by consolidating timelines where possible while still
12 preserving the integrity and thoroughness of each review; now,
13 therefore,
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15 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
16 Thirty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
17 of 2025, the Senate concurring, that the Land Use Commission is
18 requested to coordinate with each county planning commission and
19 county council to conduct concurrent reviews of general plan
20 amendments, district boundary amendments, and zoning amendments;
21 and
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23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Land Use Commission, county
24 planning commissions, and county councils are requested to
25 ensure each decision is made in the appropriate sequence but
26 scheduled as close together as practicable; and
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28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Land Use Commissions,
29 county planning commissions, and county councils are requested
30 to develop administrative protocols or memoranda of
31 understanding to facilitate shared hearings, joint public
32 comment opportunities, and synchronized timelines to reduce
33 unnecessary delay and duplication of effort; and
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35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
36 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the
37 Land Use Commission; Director of the Office of Planning and
38 Sustainable Development; Mayors of the Counties of Maui, Kauai,
39 and Hawaii and Mayor of the City and County of Honolulu;
40 Chairpersons of the County Councils of Maui, Kauai, and Hawaii
41 and the Chairperson of the Honolulu City Council; and Directors
42 of the Departments of Planning of the Counties of Maui and



H.C.R. NO. 65

1 Kauai, Planning Department of the County of Hawaii, and
2 Department of Planning and Permitting of the City and County of
3 Honolulu.
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OFFERED BY:

MLC

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