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## HOUSE RESOLUTION

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REQUESTING THAT THE HAWAII STATE FIRE CODE CLEARLY DEFINE STAGES  
OF WILDFIRE SUPPRESSION AND RELATED EFFORTS.

1 WHEREAS, some of our nation's most devastating fires have  
2 been the result of lingering hotspots reigniting; and  
3

4 WHEREAS, the Oakland Hills fire of 1991 which destroyed  
5 over 2,500 structures, the 2021 Boulder County fire which was  
6 the most destructive fire in Colorado's history, and the 2023  
7 Lahaina fire which was the deadliest fire in the United States  
8 in over a century, were each caused by the reignition of  
9 earlier, seemingly quelled blazes; and  
10

11 WHEREAS, worsening drought conditions and more severe  
12 weather events associated with strong wind gusts intensify the  
13 risk of wildfire and increase the difficulty of firefighting  
14 efforts; and  
15

16 WHEREAS, having clear definitions related to wildfire  
17 stages when communicating with the public and for internal  
18 guidelines for fire operations and suppression actions, formal  
19 reporting, and fire safety regulations would allow for cohesion  
20 in understanding of terminology and the execution of appropriate  
21 protocols; now, therefore,  
22

23 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
24 Thirty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
25 of 2025, that the Hawaii State Fire Code clearly define stages  
26 of wildfire suppression and related efforts; and  
27

28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following terms are  
29 included in defined terminology: "uncontrolled", "contained",  
30 "controlled", "extinguished", and "fully extinguished"; and  
31



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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the definition of "fully  
2 extinguished" include the necessitation of constant monitoring  
3 to ensure the absence of hotspots or smoke for a minimum of  
4 forty-eight hours, and under red flag warning or drought  
5 conditions, ninety-six hours; and

6  
7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
8 Resolution be transmitted to the State Fire Marshal, State Fire  
9 Council, county fire chiefs, each county's Fire Prevention  
10 Bureau, President of the Hawaii State Senate, and Speaker of the  
11 Hawaii State House of Representatives.

12  
13  
14 OFFERED BY:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gene Ward", is written over a horizontal line.

MAR 07 2025

