

MAR 07 2025

SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS TO ASSESS ITS
READINESS AND ABILITY TO ASSUME STEWARDSHIP OF THE SACRED
HAWAIIAN GROUNDS OF MAUNA ALA.

1 WHEREAS, the Royal Mausoleum of Hawaii, was established in
2 1865 as the final resting place for the ruling monarchs of the
3 Kingdom of Hawaii, their families, and close advisors; and
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5 WHEREAS, from the evening of October 12, 1865, when
6 eighteen royal caskets were removed from their tomb at Pohukaina
7 and, in a formal procession, interred at the Royal Mausoleum,
8 the ruling ali'i and their families have been interred there; and
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10 WHEREAS, the care and maintenance of Mauna Ala has been the
11 kuleana of the State through the State Parks Division of the
12 Department of Land and Natural Resources; and
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14 WHEREAS, Hawaiian Civic Clubs, Royal Societies, Kamehameha
15 Schools and its students, and other community groups have been
16 committed to contributing to the upkeep of Mauna Ala; and
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18 WHEREAS, concerns regarding stewardship and governance of
19 Mauna Ala were raised after ceremonies conducted at the Royal
20 Mausoleum were disallowed despite longstanding traditions; and
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22 WHEREAS, additional concerns have been raised regarding the
23 proposal to transfer the lands of Mauna Ala from the Department
24 of Land and Natural Resources to the Office of Hawaiian Affairs;
25 and
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27 WHEREAS, more transparency is needed as little information
28 regarding the proposed transfer was made available to Native
29 Hawaiians and the general public; and
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31 WHEREAS, certain organizations have expressed significant
32 opposition to S.B. No. 4 (2025), highlighting their distrust of
33 the Office of Hawaiian Affairs and their dissatisfaction with
34 the Department of Land and Natural Resources' current shortfalls
35 in its care of the sacred grounds; now, therefore,



BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Chief Executive Officer of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs and the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources.

OFFERED BY:

Herbert H. Packer 19

