S.R. NO. 58

MAR 0 7 2025

SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE COUNTY OF MAUI TO EMPLOY AN ARCHAEOLOGIST FOR THE PURPOSE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION IN REBUILDING LAHAINA.

1 WHEREAS, the wildfires on Maui in August 2023 were among 2 the deadliest and most destructive in the State's history; and 3 WHEREAS, the wildfires devastated much of the historic town 4 of Lahaina, destroying centuries-old buildings, cultural 5 landmarks, and irreplaceable heritage sites that were central to 6 its identity and history; and 7 8 9 WHEREAS, the Legislature recognizes that historic preservation is critical in rebuilding Lahaina because it helps 10 maintain cultural identity, supports economic recovery through 11 tourism, promotes environmental sustainability by reducing 12 waste, aids in social and emotional healing, provides 13 educational value, fosters community cohesion, and ensures 14 compliance with legal preservation regulations; and 15 16 17 WHEREAS, no archaeologist is currently involved in preserving the history and culture of the community and the 18 State during the rebuilding of Lahaina; now, therefore, 19 20 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-third 21 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2025, 22 that the County of Maui is requested to employ one full-time 23 equivalent (FTE) archaeologist; and 24 25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the archaeologist is requested 26 to work with other entities involved in the rebuilding of 27 Lahaina to preserve the history and culture of the community and 28 the State; and 29 30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the archaeologist is requested 31 to implement federal and state mandates, and to plan and manage 32 33 projects on historic preservation; and 34 35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the Mayor of the County of Maui. 36



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