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# HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO WORK WITH ITS PARTNERS TO INCREASE INVESTMENT IN POLICIES, INCENTIVES, WORKFORCE, AND NURSERY CAPACITY TO REFOREST HAWAII'S PUBLIC AND PRIVATE LANDS.

1           WHEREAS, Hawaii's forests are the foundation of the State's  
2 water supply, cultural heritage, biodiversity, near coastal  
3 ecosystem, and climate resilience, and are a key piece of the  
4 natural infrastructure upon which life on the islands relies;  
5 and  
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7           WHEREAS, Hawaii's forests are unique to the State, provide  
8 a multitude of values including local enjoyment and recreation,  
9 cultural foundation for Native Hawaiians, visitor attraction,  
10 and economic opportunities from the management of species, such  
11 as koa, 'iliahi, maile, and 'ohi'a lehua, that can be restored and  
12 sustainably managed so as to expand the forest economy in the  
13 State; and  
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15           WHEREAS, Hawaii's native forests were cleared and are  
16 degrading due to a history of land use changes, unmanaged  
17 ungulates, invasive weeds, and other disturbances, which have  
18 resulted in significant ecological, cultural, coral-fishery  
19 habitat, and economic losses that will continue if reforestation  
20 is not a priority for the State; and  
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22           WHEREAS, restoring degraded forests and former forest lands  
23 to a healthy and fire resilient status will have many benefits  
24 to people in the State and the economy while also supporting  
25 agricultural diversification, including through silvopastoral  
26 systems and other markets; and  
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28           WHEREAS, reforestation requires a suite of conditions,  
29 including landowner incentives, policy directions, stable



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1 funding, and strategic investments, to support the pipeline of  
2 reforestation needs on public and private lands; and

3  
4 WHEREAS, among the needs is investment in state and private  
5 nursery modernization to increase the supply of high-quality,  
6 clean native seedlings necessary for reforestation, including  
7 expanding the collecting, banking, and management of seed  
8 resources and seed orchards; and

9  
10 WHEREAS, strengthening reforestation in Hawaii has been  
11 identified by the Green Fee Advisory Council as a priority to  
12 achieve Hawaii's resilience, watershed protection, and ecosystem  
13 restoration goals; and

14  
15 WHEREAS, this body expressly recognizes reforestation as a  
16 priority for Hawaii and acknowledges that supporting and  
17 investing in reforestation will expand Hawaii's future economic  
18 opportunities and improve clean water supply and climate  
19 resilience; now, therefore,

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21 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
22 Thirty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
23 of 2026, the Senate concurring, that the Department of Land and  
24 Natural Resources is urged to work with its partners to increase  
25 investment in policies, incentives, workforce, and nursery  
26 capacity to reforest Hawaii's public and private lands; and

27  
28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Land and  
29 Natural Resources, through its Division of Forestry and  
30 Wildlife, is urged to invest in its nurseries to modernize and  
31 increase capacity to meet Hawaii's present and future  
32 reforestation needs; and

33  
34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, as part of the reforestation  
35 efforts, the Department of Land and Natural Resources is urged  
36 to include and strengthen outreach, coordination, and  
37 partnerships with private nurseries, seed collaboratives,  
38 community organizations, and landowners; and

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40 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Land and  
41 Natural Resources is urged to explore and advance reforestation  
42 policies, programs, tools, and structures that will support



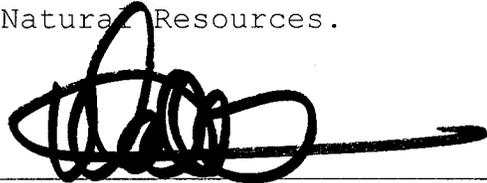
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1 reforestation efforts and attract additional public,  
2 philanthropic, and private investment in reforestation across  
3 Hawaii; and  
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5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Land and  
6 Natural Resources is urged to work with its partners and use  
7 existing programs to further address barriers to reforestation  
8 in a manner that will defray upfront reforestation costs,  
9 including the costs for fencing and invasive weed and ungulate  
10 management, and support coordinated programs and planning across  
11 landowners and agencies; and  
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13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
14 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor and  
15 Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources.  
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OFFERED BY: \_\_\_\_\_



MAR 12 2026

