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## HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE OFFICE OF PLANNING AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT TO  
CONVENE A DEMOLITION WASTE REDUCTION WORKING GROUP.

1 WHEREAS, Hawaii's landfills are nearing capacity, with the  
2 State facing significant community opposition to the expansion  
3 of existing facilities or the establishment of new facilities;  
4 and

5  
6 WHEREAS, according to the United States Environmental  
7 Protection Agency, construction and demolition waste constitutes  
8 approximately twenty-one to forty percent of landfill mass  
9 nationwide and represents one of the largest contributors to  
10 solid waste in Hawaii, further exacerbating landfill pressures;  
11 and

12  
13 WHEREAS, a comprehensive and coordinated cross-industry  
14 approach is critical to advancing the circular construction  
15 economy, reducing waste, and promoting sustainable practices  
16 across the State's construction and demolition sectors; and

17  
18 WHEREAS, local recycling nonprofits and community-based  
19 organizations in the State have made significant progress in  
20 advocating for deconstruction, reuse, and circular economy  
21 principles, but face barriers in scaling these efforts to have a  
22 broader policy and economic impact; and

23  
24 WHEREAS, a construction and demolition waste reduction  
25 working group could serve as a catalyst to coordinate efforts  
26 across industries, identify resources, remove systemic barriers,  
27 and recommend targeted incentives that promote sustainable  
28 practices and economic growth; and

29  
30 WHEREAS, the adoption of reclaimed and reused materials,  
31 which are often low-embodied carbon alternatives to virgin  
32 materials, could significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions  
33 and support the State's carbon reduction goals, as outlined in  
34 Act 15, Session Laws of Hawaii 2018, which committed the State  
35 to achieving carbon neutrality by 2045; and

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1 WHEREAS, landfills have historically been located near  
2 disadvantaged communities, disproportionately exposing these  
3 communities to health risks, such as air pollution, groundwater  
4 contamination, and other environmental hazards, and addressing  
5 these injustices should be a central goal of sustainable waste  
6 management policies; and

7  
8 WHEREAS, the establishment of a working group will help  
9 make actionable recommendations, including reviewing potential  
10 approaches, proposing solutions, and prioritizing actions to  
11 promote deconstruction, materials reuse, and waste reduction;  
12 and

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14 WHEREAS, the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development  
15 plays a key role in coordinating statewide planning,  
16 sustainability initiatives, and cross-agency collaboration, and  
17 is well positioned to convene stakeholders to address  
18 construction and demolition waste challenges; now, therefore,

19  
20 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
21 Thirty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
22 of 2026, that the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development  
23 is requested to convene a Demolition Waste Reduction Working  
24 Group; and

25  
26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Working Group is requested  
27 to:

- 28  
29 (1) Identify and implement solutions to reduce  
30 construction and demolition waste statewide;  
31  
32 (2) Develop strategies to scale deconstruction and  
33 materials reuse to reduce landfill dependency;  
34  
35 (3) Support the growth of the circular construction  
36 economy by fostering public and private sector  
37 collaboration;  
38  
39 (4) Ensure alignment with the State's goals; and  
40  
41 (5) Create a framework for policy and economic incentives  
42 that promote sustainable practices; and



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2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Working Group is requested  
3 to include the following members:  
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5 (1) The Director of the Office of Planning and Sustainable  
6 Development, or the Director's designee, who is  
7 requested to serve as chair of the Working Group;  
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9 (2) The Comptroller, or the Comptroller's designee;  
10

11 (3) Private sector leaders invited to participate by the  
12 chair, including:  
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14 (A) One representative from the construction  
15 industry;  
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17 (B) One representative from the demolition and  
18 deconstruction industry;  
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20 (C) One representative from the reuse retail  
21 industry;  
22

23 (D) One representative from the real estate  
24 development industry;  
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26 (E) One representative with expertise in historic  
27 preservation;  
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29 (F) One representative with expertise in  
30 architecture;  
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32 (G) One representative with expertise in urban  
33 planning; and  
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35 (H) One representative from the waste management  
36 industry; and  
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38 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Working Group is requested  
39 to invite and involve community groups with expertise in  
40 workforce development, public policy, and environmental justice;  
41 and  
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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Working Group is requested  
2 to focus on policy innovation and cross-industry collaboration,  
3 exploring best practices from successful circular economy  
4 programs in other regions, such as those implemented in Denmark  
5 and the Netherlands; and

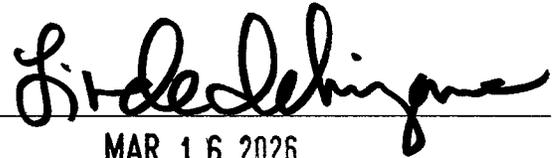
6  
7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Working Group is requested  
8 to submit annual reports of its findings and recommendations,  
9 including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later  
10 than twenty days prior to the convening of each Regular Session;  
11 and

12  
13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the reports are requested to  
14 include the Working Group's successes and opportunities for  
15 further action in advancing the circular construction economy;  
16 and

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18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
19 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of the Office of  
20 Planning and Sustainable Development and Comptroller.

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OFFERED BY:

  
MAR 16 2026

