

MAR 16 2026

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF DUST MONITORING STATIONS IN AND
AROUND WAIMANALO GULCH TO PROTECT PUBLIC HEALTH AND
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY.

1 WHEREAS, dust and airborne particulate matter can pose
2 serious health risks, including respiratory, cardiovascular, and
3 allergic conditions; and

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5 WHEREAS, dust may carry heavy metals, organic chemicals,
6 pathogens, bioaerosols, silica, asbestos, or other harmful
7 substances; and

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9 WHEREAS, dust monitoring is the process of measuring and
10 tracking the concentration, type, and movement of dust particles
11 in the air or in a specific environment; and

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13 WHEREAS, a dust monitoring station is a device or network
14 of devices that continuously measures airborne particulate
15 matter, including coarse (PM10) and fine (PM2.5) particles, and
16 can provide real-time data on dust levels; and

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18 WHEREAS, dust monitoring stations help protect public
19 health by identifying elevated levels of harmful particulate
20 matter that can aggravate respiratory, cardiovascular, and
21 allergic conditions, particularly among vulnerable populations
22 such as children, the elderly, and those with pre-existing
23 health conditions; and

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25 WHEREAS, the data collected by dust monitoring stations
26 supports informed policy and regulatory decisions by
27 providing accurate, site-specific measurements of airborne dust,
28 enabling agencies to implement effective mitigation strategies
29 and ensure compliance with environmental standards; and

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31 WHEREAS, real-time and historical data from dust monitoring
32 stations promotes transparency and community engagement



1 by allowing residents, researchers, and local decision-makers to
2 access and understand air quality conditions in their area; and

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4 WHEREAS, dust monitoring stations can also support
5 environmental research and long-term planning by tracking trends
6 in airborne particulate matter, identifying sources of dust
7 pollution, and assessing the effectiveness of dust control
8 measures over time; and

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10 WHEREAS, Waimanalo Gulch, including the Waimanalo Gulch
11 Sanitary Landfill, is a site of ongoing waste management and
12 landfill activity that can generate dust impacting surrounding
13 communities; and

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15 WHEREAS, current air quality monitoring in the vicinity
16 does not include dedicated dust monitoring stations at
17 or immediately surrounding Waimanalo Gulch, limiting the ability
18 of state and local agencies to assess exposure risks and
19 implement mitigation measures; and

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21 WHEREAS, establishing dust monitoring stations would
22 provide critical data to inform public health protections,
23 enforce environmental regulations, and guide dust control and
24 mitigation strategies; and

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26 WHEREAS, the Hawaii State Department of Health, Clean Air
27 Branch, has the expertise and technical capability
28 to establish and maintain particulate matter (PM2.5 and PM10)
29 monitoring stations, as demonstrated by existing monitoring
30 sites on O'ahu; now, therefore,

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32 BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Thirty-third Legislature
33 of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2026, the House of
34 Representatives concurring, urges the Department of Health, in
35 coordination with other relevant agencies, to:

- 36 1. Establish dust monitoring stations at strategic locations
37 in and around Waimanalo Gulch, with a focus on PM2.5
38 and PM10;
39 2. Provide real-time public access to dust and air quality
40 data collected from these stations; and



1 3. Develop a plan for regular reporting, data review, and
2 community notification in the event that particulate matter
3 levels exceed safe thresholds; and
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5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Department of Health, in
6 coordination with the City and County of Honolulu and other
7 relevant agencies, is requested to submit a comprehensive report
8 to the Hawaii State Legislature on the establishment and
9 operation of dust monitoring stations in and around Waimanalo
10 Gulch, including:

- 11 1. The locations, types, and technical specifications of
12 proposed or existing dust monitoring stations;
- 13 2. The levels and types of particulate matter (PM2.5, PM10)
14 and other airborne contaminants detected;
- 15 3. The potential sources of dust and associated risks to
16 public health and the environment;
- 17 4. Recommended strategies for dust mitigation and community
18 protection; and
- 19 5. Any relevant data, findings, or trends from ongoing
20 monitoring efforts; and
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22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Health is
23 requested to submit its report to the Legislature no later than
24 twenty days prior to the Regular Session of 2027; and
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26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
27 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of the
28 Hawaii State Department of Health, the Mayor of the City and
29 County of Honolulu, and any other appropriate state or local
30 agencies.
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OFFERED BY:

