

MAR 16 2026

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# SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, IN COLLABORATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS, TO CONVENE A WORKING GROUP TO COORDINATE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLANNING TO REDUCE INFRASTRUCTURE COSTS FOR HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS DEVELOPMENTS.

1           WHEREAS, Act 279, Session Laws of Hawaii 2022 (Act 279),  
2 appropriated \$600,000,000 for the Department of Hawaiian Home  
3 Lands to address the backlog of applicants on its waitlist for  
4 homestead leases; and

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6           WHEREAS, Act 279 identified costs of infrastructure as a  
7 major challenge faced by the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands  
8 in preparing lots for homestead leases; and

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10          WHEREAS, these costs include preparing land for  
11 homesteading with adequate roads, water, sewer drainage,  
12 electrical, and other necessities; and

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14          WHEREAS, any infrastructure development or capital  
15 improvement efforts undertaken by the Department of Hawaiian  
16 Home Lands should be in coordination with other relevant  
17 departments and stakeholders in order to reduce costs and  
18 increase efficiency; and

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20          WHEREAS, the Department of Transportation is engaged in a  
21 number of infrastructure projects that may overlap with current  
22 or future Department of Hawaiian Home Lands development  
23 initiatives; and

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25          WHEREAS, the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands and  
26 Department of Transportation must ensure synchronized and  
27 coordinated planning in capital improvement planning; now,  
28 therefore,  
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# S.R. NO. 130

1 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-third  
2 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2026,  
3 that the Department of Transportation, in collaboration with the  
4 Department of Hawaiian Home Lands, is requested to convene a  
5 working group to coordinate capital improvement planning to  
6 reduce infrastructure costs for Hawaiian home lands  
7 developments; and

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9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested  
10 to consist of the following members:

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12 (1) The Director of Transportation, or the Director's  
13 designee, who shall serve as chairperson of the  
14 working group;

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16 (2) The Chairperson of the Hawaiian Homes Commission, or  
17 the Chairperson's designee;

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19 (3) The Planning and Development Coordinator of the Land  
20 Development Division of the Department of Hawaiian  
21 Home Lands, or the Coordinator's designee;

22

23 (4) The Chief Executive Officer of the Office of Hawaiian  
24 Affairs, or the Chief Executive Officer's designee;  
25 and

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27 (5) Individuals with experience in infrastructure  
28 planning, transportation, finance, or other relevant  
29 expertise, as invited by the chairperson; and

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31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested  
32 to:

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34 (1) Review and compare planned capital improvement  
35 projects of the Department of Transportation and  
36 Department of Hawaiian Home Lands over a five-year  
37 planning period;

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39 (2) Identify geographic areas where planned Department of  
40 Transportation projects overlap with current or  
41 planned Hawaiian home lands developments;

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- 1 (3) Evaluate opportunities to coordinate roadway,
- 2 drainage, grading, and related infrastructure work to
- 3 reduce duplicative mobilization and construction
- 4 costs;
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- 6 (4) Assess the potential cost savings associated with
- 7 synchronized project planning and joint execution;
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- 9 (5) Develop a standardized early-notification and
- 10 coordination process to ensure timely information
- 11 sharing between the departments regarding upcoming
- 12 projects;
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- 14 (6) Identify statutory, regulatory, or procedural barriers
- 15 that may inhibit coordinated capital improvement
- 16 execution; and
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- 18 (7) Recommend necessary administrative or legislative
- 19 changes to institutionalize coordinated planning
- 20 efforts; and
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22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested  
 23 to submit a report of its findings and recommendations,  
 24 including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later  
 25 than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session  
 26 of 2027; and

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 28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group shall cease  
 29 to exist on June 30, 2027; and

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 31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
 32 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Transportation,  
 33 Chairperson of the Hawaiian Homes Commission, and Chief  
 34 Executive Officer of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs.

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OFFERED BY: Mike Goffard

