

FEB 09 2026

SENATE RESOLUTION

STRONGLY SUPPORTING THE COUNTY OF HAWAII'S EFFORTS TO DEVELOP
THE KEALAKEHE REGIONAL PARK PROJECT.

1 WHEREAS, the proposed Kealakehe Regional Park project
2 encompasses approximately one hundred ninety acres of
3 county-owned land in North Kona, bounded by Queen Ka'ahumanu
4 Highway, Ane Keohokālole Highway, and Kealakehe Parkway; and
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6 WHEREAS, the master plan for Kealakehe Regional Park
7 envisions multiple athletic fields, indoor and outdoor courts, a
8 skate park, an amphitheater, cultural gathering spaces, and
9 passive recreation areas designed to serve the entire West
10 Hawai'i community; and
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12 WHEREAS, despite longstanding community advocacy and
13 planning efforts, progress on the Kealakehe Regional Park
14 project has stalled, leaving the land underutilized while the
15 population of North Kona continues to grow; and
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17 WHEREAS, the lack of a regional-scale park limits
18 opportunities for organized youth sports, family recreation,
19 cultural events, and healthy lifestyles in West Hawai'i,
20 disproportionately affecting working families and school-aged
21 children; and
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23 WHEREAS, the Kealakehe Regional Park project aligns with
24 the State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, the goals of
25 Vision Zero and Complete Streets, and public health strategies
26 to increase active recreation opportunities; and
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28 WHEREAS, community members, the West Hawai'i Parks and
29 Athletic Corporation, local sports leagues, schools, and
30 community associations have consistently expressed strong
31 support for the timely development of the park; now, therefore,
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33 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-third
34 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2026,



1 that this body strongly supports the County of Hawai'i's efforts
2 to develop the Kealakehe Regional Park project; and

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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County of Hawai'i is urged
5 to identify and allocate sufficient capital improvement funding,
6 seek state and federal grants, and pursue phased development to
7 ensure the timely realization of park facilities; and

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9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County of Hawai'i is
10 encouraged to collaborate with the Department of Hawaiian Home
11 Lands, Department of Education, community stakeholders, and
12 local nonprofit organizations to maximize recreational,
13 educational, and cultural benefits; and

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15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County of Hawai'i is
16 requested to submit a report to the Legislature no later than
17 twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session 2027,
18 detailing progress made in advancing the Kealakehe Regional Park
19 project; and

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21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
22 Resolution be transmitted to the Mayor of the County of Hawai'i,
23 Chair of the Hawai'i County Council, Director of the Department
24 of Parks and Recreation of the County of Hawai'i, and President
25 of the West Hawai'i Parks and Athletic Corporation.

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OFFERED BY:

