



HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL
KE KANIHELA O KE KALANA O HONOLULU
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

No. 24-51

RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION TO MAKE OFFICIAL REQUESTS FOR USE OF STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION FACILITIES AND THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION TO ENSURE AVAILABILITY OF SCHOOL GROUNDS FOR RECREATIONAL PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, the Department of Parks and Recreation ("DPR") manages over 300 parks and facilities for the recreational enjoyment of the public; and

WHEREAS, the City Council ("Council") recognizes the importance of recreational spaces for the health and welfare of the public, especially that of the children and youth of our various communities; and

WHEREAS, the existing capacity of the DPR's recreational facilities does not always meet the demand for use of the facilities, especially sports fields during weekends; and

WHEREAS, the State Department of Education ("DOE") oversees public school campuses across the State, including fields and outdoor facilities thereon; and

WHEREAS, the City owns, operates, maintains, and/or manages over 80 parcels of land housing DOE schools, some of which is DPR park lands; and

WHEREAS, Hawai'i Revised Statutes ("HRS") Section 302A-1147 states that, upon the request by a county, the Board of Education "shall make school grounds available after school hours in the county where the request is made, for use by the county requesting the same whenever this can be done without interference with the normal and usual activities of the school and its pupils"; and

WHEREAS, HRS Section 302A-1148 further states that all "public school buildings, facilities, and grounds shall be available for general recreational purposes, and for public and community use, whenever these activities do not interfere with the normal and usual activities of the school and its pupils"; and

WHEREAS, there is a need to provide access to school athletic fields for community sports, exercise, and other recreational activities during non-school hours; and



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WHEREAS, allowing the DPR to access and utilize DOE athletic fields would promote physical activity, health, and well-being among all residents and especially the children and youth of O'ahu; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City and County of Honolulu that the Department of Parks and Recreation is urged to officially request the use of State Department of Education facilities after school hours for the purpose of enhancing and improving the public's opportunities for recreational and community activities, particularly in park districts where the demand for field space exceeds the availability of City and County of Honolulu recreational facilities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the State Board of Education is urged to ensure the availability of school grounds for use by the Department of Parks and Recreation whenever such use can be granted without interfering with the normal activities of the schools; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Mayor, the Managing Director, the Director of Parks and Recreation, the Superintendent of the State Department of Education, and the Chair of the State Board of Education.

INTRODUCED BY:

Guthrie Ukaime

DATE OF INTRODUCTION:

FEB 27 2024

Honolulu, Hawai'i

Councilmembers

Report Title:

Parks Facilities; State Department of Education; State Board of Education; DPR;
Athletic Fields

The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.
