
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING COMPLIANCE WITH TITLE VI OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS ACT OF
1964.

1 WHEREAS, the State of Hawaii provides many essential
2 services, programs, and activities to its residents, including
3 health and human services, child protection, access to public
4 benefits and medical services, emergency disaster relief, and
5 education; and

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7 WHEREAS, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42
8 U.S.C. §2000d, requires all entities receiving federal funds to
9 provide language-accessible services including the translation
10 of vital documents and other oral language services for limited
11 English proficient persons; and

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13 WHEREAS, individuals and non-profit entities have raised
14 substantial concerns regarding the State's compliance with Title
15 VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; and

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17 WHEREAS, the Legislature finds that the State should be in
18 full compliance with Title VI; now, therefore,

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20 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-third
21 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2006, the
22 House of Representatives concurring, that the Governor is
23 requested to issue a directive instructing all state departments
24 to comply with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, or any
25 other succeeding provision of federal law, regulation, or
26 guideline, and to ensure that all departments are in full and
27 complete compliance with Title VI; and

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29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature request an
30 audit of the Department of Human Services, including but not
31 limited to a review and analysis of the Department's compliance
32 with its obligations under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of
33 1964, to ensure meaningful access by people with limited English
34 proficiency by examining the adequacy of:



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- (1) The Department's written policy of language access;
- (2) Any programs, protocols, or training used to ensure that the Department's staff understands and is capable of carrying out meaningful access to its services; and
- (3) The Department's oversight of the language assistance program to ensure that people with limited English proficiency have meaningful access to its services;

and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Governor direct each department to submit a report detailing its compliance efforts to the Legislature no later than thirty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2007; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the President of the Senate, and the Auditor.

OFFERED BY: Shiranne Chun Caldwell
J. Alan G. G. H.