
HOUSE RESOLUTION

ESTABLISHING A TASK FORCE TO STUDY AND ASSESS HOW THE DEPARTMENT
OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM MAY BE
RESTRUCTURED AND ITS MISSION REDIRECTED.

1 WHEREAS, House Concurrent Resolution No. 76, H.D. 1,
2 S.D. 1, 2009, established a Task Force on Reinventing Government
3 (Task Force) to examine the existing operations and
4 organizations of Hawaii's state government and recommend ways to
5 make Hawaii's government more efficient; and
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7 WHEREAS, the Task Force was formed in October 2009 and
8 gathered together a varied group of government leaders, state
9 agency and department heads, community leaders, nonprofit
10 organization leaders, and business executives from around the
11 State; and
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13 WHEREAS, in light of the financial strain that Hawaii faces
14 due to the world economic downturn and resulting decline in tax
15 revenue, the group was tasked with examining opportunities to
16 reevaluate and restructure state government operations and
17 organizations to do more with fewer resources in order to
18 weather current economic crises and prepare for future
19 challenges; and
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21 WHEREAS, at its final meeting on January 4, 2010, the Task
22 Force adopted a number of recommendations, including
23 recommendations to improve government efficiency in the
24 Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism
25 (DBEDT); and
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27 WHEREAS, the Task Force recommended that the mission of
28 DBEDT be better defined and prioritized to function as a
29 facilitator and clearinghouse and to offer strategic directions
30 for business development; and



1 WHEREAS, DBEDT presently serves as a "catch-all" agency
2 that takes in functions not covered by other state agencies,
3 including the Foreign Trade Zone, Aloha Tower Development
4 Corporation, Hawaii Tourism Authority, Natural Energy Laboratory
5 of Hawaii Authority, and the Land Use Commission, among others;
6 and
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8 WHEREAS, as a result of this lack of focus, DBEDT is unable
9 to make a significant difference in the areas that it serves,
10 and despite the best efforts of staff, the agency is doomed to
11 ineffectiveness and inefficiency due to the lack of policy
12 direction regarding its true mission and purpose; and
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14 WHEREAS, DBEDT would best serve its constituent groups as a
15 resource for business development and as a clearinghouse for
16 other entities, such as the respective Economic Development
17 Boards on each island; now, therefore,
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19 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
20 Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
21 of 2010, that there is established a joint government and
22 private sector task force to study and assess how the Department
23 of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism may be
24 restructured and its mission redirected to change the focus from
25 a "hands-on" agency to a "facilitative" agency that serves as a
26 clearinghouse for other entities; and
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28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study include, but not be
29 limited to:
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- 31 (1) An assessment of existing private resources, such as
32 the Economic Development Boards on each island, among
33 others, which could be used to facilitate economic
34 development;
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- 36 (2) Cost savings that may be achieved through
37 organizational and program restructuring;
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- 39 (3) Legislative measures that would be required to
40 effectuate DBEDT's organizational and program
41 restructuring; and
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- 43 (4) Any other information that may be applicable;
44

and



1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of the task force
2 shall include representatives of DBEDT, the four county Economic
3 Development Boards, Hawaii Business Roundtable, The Chamber of
4 Commerce of Hawaii, and other members as may be appropriate; and
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6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall report its
7 findings and recommendations to the Legislature no later than
8 twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of
9 2011; and
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11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
12 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Business, Economic
13 Development, and Tourism; the Directors of Enterprise Honolulu;
14 the Economic Development Boards of Maui, Kauai, and Hawaii; the
15 Executive Director of the Hawaii Business Roundtable, and the
16 President and CEO of The Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii.

