
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE COLLECTION OF DEMOGRAPHIC DATA BY STATE
AGENCIES, BOARDS, AND COMMISSIONS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that Asian Americans,
2 Native Hawaiians, and other Pacific Islanders represent 48.6 per
3 cent of the State's population. While Asian Americans, Native
4 Hawaiians, and other Pacific Islanders are often misrepresented
5 as a homogeneous group, they are an extremely diverse group,
6 with ethnicities from over thirty different countries. Asian
7 American, Native Hawaiian, and other Pacific Islander
8 communities in this State experience diverse social,
9 educational, health, and economic differences that are unique to
10 their respective communities.

11 The legislature also finds that, due to this diversity, the
12 United States Office of Management and Budget's Statistical
13 Policy Directive No. 15, entitled "Race and Ethnic Standards for
14 Federal Statistics and Administrative Reporting," separated the
15 "Asian and Pacific Islander" category into two distinct and
16 separate categories, now called "Asians" and "Native Hawaiians
17 and Other Pacific Islanders," and these two distinct categories



1 were used in the 2000 United States Census. The United States
2 Census Bureau currently reports data for more than twenty
3 different ethnicities within these two categories.

4 Despite the United States Census Bureau's current policy
5 and practice of disaggregating data related to Asian Americans,
6 Native Hawaiians, and other Pacific Islanders, Hawaii's state
7 agencies do not keep demographic data in a standard or uniform
8 manner that comports with these prevailing federal standards.
9 Moreover, most state agencies do not make collected demographic
10 data accessible to the public so that regional and local
11 governments, elected officials, decision makers, and other
12 stakeholders can use the information to strategically target
13 programs for those most in need.

14 Given the diversity of languages and cultures, separating
15 data for Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and other Pacific
16 Islander ethnic groups and making the data publicly accessible
17 are critical for enhancing understanding of the needs and
18 experiences of these different communities.

19 In particular, the State has unique trust responsibilities
20 with respect to Native Hawaiians, which are administered by a
21 variety of state agencies, including, but not limited to, the
22 office of Hawaiian affairs. The uniform collection and sharing



1 of data specific to Native Hawaiians is critical to the proper
2 administration of the State's trust responsibilities and the
3 betterment of the conditions of Native Hawaiians through other
4 similar initiatives.

5 The purpose of this Act is to facilitate the proper
6 collection and reporting of demographic data by requiring data
7 disaggregation consistent with federal standards and requiring
8 publication of such data.

9 SECTION 2. Chapter 27, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended
10 by adding a new section to be appropriately designated and to
11 read as follows:

12 "§27- Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and other
13 Pacific Islander groups; collection of demographic data. (a)

14 Any state agency, board, or commission that directly or by
15 contract collects demographic data as to ancestry or ethnic
16 origin shall use separate collection categories and tabulations
17 for the following:

18 (1) Native Hawaiians;

19 (2) Each major Asian group, including, but not limited to,
20 Chinese, Japanese, Filipino, Korean, Vietnamese, Asian
21 Indian, Laotian, Cambodian, Bangladeshi, Hmong,



1 Indonesian, Malaysian, Pakistani, Sri Lankan,
2 Taiwanese, and Thai; and

3 (3) Each other major Pacific Islander group, including,
4 but not limited to Samoan, Fijian, Tongan, and
5 Guamanian.

6 (b) The data collected pursuant to the different
7 collection categories and tabulations described in subsection
8 (a) shall be included in every demographic report on ancestry or
9 ethnic origins by the state agency, board, or commission
10 published or released on or after July 1, 2013. The data shall
11 be made available to the public in accordance with state and
12 federal law, except for personal identifying information, which
13 shall be deemed confidential.

14 (c) State agencies, boards, and commissions shall make any
15 demographic data collected pursuant to this section publicly
16 available, subject to all applicable state and federal laws
17 regarding personal identifying information, by posting the data
18 on the internet web site of the agency on or before July 1,
19 2013, and annually thereafter.

20 (d) State agencies, within eighteen months after the
21 decennial United States Census for the year 2020 is released to
22 the public, shall update their data collection to reflect the



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1 additional Asian groups and additional Native Hawaiian and
 2 Pacific Islander groups as they are reported by the United
 3 States Census Bureau."

4 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

5 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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INTRODUCED BY: Calvin K. Iy
 BY REQUEST

JAN 17 2012



H.B. NO. 1983

Report Title:

Demographic Data; State Agencies; Publication; Ethnicities;
Office of Hawaiian Affairs Package

Description:

Requires state agencies to disaggregate data consistent with federal standards and requires publication of the data.

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