

---

---

# HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE STATE ATTORNEY GENERAL TO CONVENE AN ANTI-  
GRAFFITI TASK FORCE TO DEVELOP RECOMMENDATIONS THAT ADDRESS  
EDUCATION AND PREVENTION, ENFORCEMENT, COMMUNITY  
INVOLVEMENT, LEGISLATION, AND GRAFFITI REMOVAL.

1           WHEREAS, graffiti vandalism has grown from an exclusively  
2 big city or urban concern to a problem that affects all  
3 communities; and  
4

5           WHEREAS, graffiti vandals have caused more than  
6 \$1,000,000,000 of damage on public and private property  
7 nationwide; and  
8

9           WHEREAS, in Hawaii, graffiti vandals are elusive and city  
10 and county police generally apprehend individuals suspected of  
11 graffiti only when they stake out a specific area or, more  
12 commonly, when a witness calls 911; and  
13

14           WHEREAS, graffiti vandals may use social media to showcase  
15 their acts of vandalism to a nationwide audience, which has led  
16 to a recent increase of graffiti vandalism in Hawaii, according  
17 to a Department of Public Safety official; and  
18

19           WHEREAS, while anti-graffiti legislation should be one part  
20 of Hawaii's comprehensive approach to eradicating or containing  
21 the problem of graffiti vandalism, other elements should include  
22 education and prevention, enforcement, community involvement,  
23 and graffiti removal; now, therefore,  
24

25           BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
26 Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular  
27 Session of 2014, the Senate concurring, that the State Attorney  
28 General is requested to convene an anti-graffiti task force to  
29 develop recommendations that address education and prevention,



1 enforcement, community involvement, legislation, and graffiti  
2 removal; and

3  
4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force be chaired by  
5 the Attorney General, or the Attorney General's designee, and  
6 comprise:

- 7  
8 (1) The Director of Public Safety, or the director's  
9 designee;
- 10  
11 (2) The Superintendent of Education, or the  
12 Superintendent's designee;
- 13  
14 (3) The Executive Director of the Hawaii State Foundation  
15 on Culture and the Arts or the Executive Director's  
16 designee;
- 17  
18 (4) The President of the Senate, or the President's  
19 designee;
- 20  
21 (5) The Speaker of the House of Representatives, or the  
22 Speaker's designee;
- 23  
24 (6) A representative from the Judiciary appointed by the  
25 Chief Justice; and
- 26  
27 (7) A police chief from one of the four counties, or the  
28 chief's designee; and

29  
30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force should consider,  
31 among other things:

- 32  
33 (1) Developing definitions for graffiti and graffiti-  
34 related implements to aid in drafting legislation;
- 35  
36 (2) Developing anti-graffiti programs in schools and  
37 promoting youth diversion activities that encourage  
38 artistic expression through a lawful medium;
- 39  
40 (3) Controlling access to aerosol spray paint containers  
41 and other items that may be used for graffiti by  
42 requiring retailers to display and store these items  
43 in monitored locations;



- 1 (4) Requiring retailers who sell items that may be used  
2 for graffiti to post signage educating customers about  
3 the graffiti law;  
4
- 5 (5) Developing legislation to assist law enforcement and  
6 judicial agencies in reducing graffiti vandalism;  
7
- 8 (6) Partnering with communities to establish graffiti  
9 hotlines and graffiti removal teams; and  
10
- 11 (7) Determining the amount spent on graffiti removal at  
12 schools and public spaces; and  
13

14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to  
15 submit a report, authored by the State Department of the  
16 Attorney General with consultation from representatives of the  
17 retail industry and community graffiti clean-up groups, that  
18 addresses the problem of graffiti vandalism in Hawaii, and  
19 provides findings and recommendations, including any proposed  
20 legislation, to the Legislature no later than 20 days prior to  
21 the convening of the Regular Session of 2015; and  
22

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
24 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Attorney General;  
25 Director of Public Safety; Superintendent of Education;  
26 Executive Director of the Hawaii State Foundation on Culture and  
27 the Arts; President of the Senate; Speaker of the House of  
28 Representatives; Chief Justice of the Hawaii Supreme Court; the  
29 police chiefs of the Hawaii Police Department, Honolulu Police  
30 Department, Kauai Police Department, and Maui Police Department;  
31 and the chairperson of the Board of Directors of the Retail  
32 Merchants of Hawaii.

