
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THAT THE COMPTROLLER CONVENE A WORKING GROUP TO
REVIEW AND RECOMMEND IMPROVEMENTS TO STATE FACILITIES TO
MAXIMIZE HEALTH AND COGNITIVE FUNCTION.

1 WHEREAS, individuals who work in state facilities provide a
2 variety of crucial services to the people of Hawaii at the
3 expense of the taxpayer; and

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5 WHEREAS, any use of taxpayer dollars should be maximized;
6 and

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8 WHEREAS, a joint study conducted by Harvard University, the
9 State University of New York Upstate Medical University, and
10 Syracuse University linked green office environments with higher
11 cognitive function scores; and

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13 WHEREAS, the study found that people who work in well-
14 ventilated offices with below-average levels of indoor
15 pollutants and carbon dioxide have significantly higher
16 cognitive function scores in crucial areas such as responding to
17 a crisis or developing strategy than those who work in offices
18 with typical levels; and

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20 WHEREAS, the cognitive function scores of participants who
21 worked in green buildings were, on average, between sixty-one
22 percent and one hundred one percent higher than those who did
23 not work in green buildings; and

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25 WHEREAS, these findings were consistent with years of prior
26 research demonstrating that improved indoor environmental
27 quality is associated with better health outcomes for workers;
28 and



1 WHEREAS, improving the health and development of state
2 workers is in the best interest of the State; now, therefore,
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4 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
5 Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of
6 2019, the Senate concurring, that the Comptroller is requested
7 to convene a Healthy Workplace Working Group to review and
8 recommend improvements to state facilities that will maximize
9 the health and cognitive functions of individuals working inside
10 the facilities; and
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12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Healthy Workplace Working
13 Group shall consist of the following members or their designees:
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- 15 (1) The Comptroller, who shall serve as chair of the
16 Working Group;
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- 18 (2) Two members to be appointed by the Speaker of the
19 House of Representatives;
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- 21 (3) Two members to be appointed by the President of the
22 Senate; and
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- 24 (4) A member to be appointed by the chair of the Working
25 Group; and
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27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the chair of the Healthy
28 Workplace Working Group shall invite a representative from the
29 United States Green Building Council and a representative from
30 the Honolulu Chapter of the American Institute of Architects to
31 participate in the Working Group; and
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33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the chair of the Healthy
34 Workplace Working Group may invite other interested parties to
35 participate in the Working Group; and
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37 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that members of the Healthy
38 Workplace Working Group shall serve without compensation; and



1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Healthy Workplace Working
2 Group is requested to submit a report of its findings and
3 recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the
4 Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
5 the Regular Session of 2020; and

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7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
8 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor and the
9 Comptroller.

