
HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE HARBORS DIVISION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF
TRANSPORTATION TO CONVENE A TASK FORCE TO STUDY THE
FEASIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING A HAWAII COMMERCIAL HARBORS
AUTHORITY.

1 WHEREAS, the State's well-being is dependent on the
2 efficient administration, development, management, and operation
3 of its ten commercial harbors and commercial maritime
4 infrastructure; and

5
6 WHEREAS, the responsibility for the State's commercial
7 harbor planning, management, marketing, and capital development
8 functions is currently distributed among several agencies,
9 including but not limited to the Harbors Division of the
10 Department of Transportation, Hawaii Tourism Authority,
11 Department of Budget and Finance, Department of Human Resources
12 Development, Board of Land and Natural Resources, and Department
13 of Health; and

14
15 WHEREAS, distributing responsibility across multiple
16 agencies that may have conflicting goals and priorities results
17 in inefficiency, delayed decision-making, and reduced
18 effectiveness; and

19
20 WHEREAS, establishing a separate state entity with overall
21 jurisdiction over and responsibility for the State's commercial
22 harbors and maritime operations will make the planning and
23 development of the State's commercial harbors system and
24 maritime infrastructure more efficient; now, therefore,

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26 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
27 Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of
28 2019, that the Harbors Division of the Department of
29 Transportation is requested to establish a task force to be
30 administratively attached to the Harbors Division to study the



1 feasibility of establishing a Hawaii Commercial Harbors
2 Authority; and

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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to
5 examine the Hawaii Commercial Harbors Authority's ability to:

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7 (1) Maximize the contribution of the State's commercial
8 harbors to the State's economy;

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10 (2) Ensure dedicated expert commercial harbor leadership,
11 management continuity, and year-round decision-making,
12 consistent with industry best practices;

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14 (3) Improve administrative efficiency by streamlining
15 administrative processes;

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17 (4) Accelerate the planning and implementation of capital
18 improvement programs for the State's commercial
19 harbors;

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21 (5) Increase the financial flexibility and strength of the
22 State's commercial harbors;

23

24 (6) Increase economic opportunities for the State;

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26 (7) Increase responsiveness to consumer needs, commercial
27 opportunities, and economic demands; and

28

29 (8) Maximize job creation within the State; and

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31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Deputy Director of
32 Transportation, Harbors Division or the Deputy Director's
33 designee is requested to serve as chairperson of the task force
34 and to invite one representative from each of the following
35 entities to serve as task force members:

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37 (1) The Hawaii Tourism Authority;

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39 (2) The Department of Budget and Finance;

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41 (3) The Department of Human Resources Development;

42 (4) The Department of Land and Natural Resources;



- 1
- 2 (5) The Environmental Health Administration or
- 3 Environmental Management Division of the Department of
- 4 Health;
- 5
- 6 (6) The International Longshore and Warehouse Union, Local
- 7 142;
- 8
- 9 (7) The Hawaii Longshore Division of the International
- 10 Longshore and Warehouse Union, Local 142;
- 11
- 12 (8) United Public Workers, Local 646;
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- 14 (9) The Hawaii Government Employee Association, Local 152;
- 15 and
- 16
- 17 (10) The Hawaii Harbors Users Group; and
- 18

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to
20 develop and recommend legislation to establish the Hawaii
21 Commercial Harbors Authority and to transfer to the Authority
22 all of the authority, powers, functions, duties, and
23 responsibilities of the Harbors Division of the Department of
24 Transportation relating to commercial maritime and harbors,
25 including responsibility for the development, management,
26 operation, and maintenance of the State's commercial harbors;

27
28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to
29 submit a report of its findings and recommendations, including
30 any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than
31 twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of
32 2020; and

33
34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
35 Resolution be transmitted to the Deputy Director of
36 Transportation, Harbors Division; President of the Hawaii
37 Tourism Authority; Director of Finance; Director of Human
38 Resources Development; Chairperson of the Board of Land and
39 Natural Resources; Director of Health; President of the
40 International Longshore and Warehouse Union, Local 142; Director
41 of the Hawaii Longshore Division of the International Longshore
42 and Warehouse Union, Local 142; Executive Director of the Hawaii



1 Harbors Users Group; State Director of United Public Workers,
2 Local 646; and Executive Director of the Hawaii Government
3 Employee Association, Local 152.

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OFFERED BY:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "M. Ari", written over a horizontal line.

MAR 07 2019

