

# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE HAWAII STATE LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL,  
TRANSGENDER, QUEER, PLUS COMMISSION.

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

1           SECTION 1. The Hawaii Revised Statutes is amended by  
2 adding a new chapter to title 20 to be appropriately designated  
3 and to read as follows:

4    "CHAPTER  
5        **HAWAII STATE LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL, TRANSGENDER, QUEER, PLUS**  
6    **COMMISSION**

7           § -1 Findings and purpose. The legislature finds that  
8 there is a need to establish a body to improve the State's  
9 interface with members of the lesbian, gay, bisexual,  
10 transgender, queer, plus community, identify the short- and  
11 long-range needs of its members, and ensure that there is an  
12 effective means of researching, planning, and advocating for the  
13 equity of this population in all aspects of state government.  
14 The legislature further finds that establishing a program to  
15 enable a better understanding of the risks and challenges,  
16 including suicide, bullying, and ostracization, that the

1 lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, plus community face  
2 will support better prevention and intervention strategies to  
3 help this population. Accordingly, it is the purpose of this  
4 chapter to provide for a statewide program, on a permanent and  
5 continuing basis, on the status of lesbian, gay, bisexual,  
6 transgender, queer, plus people in Hawaii.

7       **§ -2 Definitions.** For purposes of this chapter:

8       "Commission" means the Hawaii state lesbian, gay, bisexual,  
9 transgender, queer, plus commission.

10       "County committee" means each committee on the status of  
11 lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, plus affairs as  
12 appointed by the mayor of each respective county in accordance  
13 with this chapter.

14       "Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, plus" includes  
15 any individual who identifies as a member of the lesbian, gay,  
16 bisexual, transgender, or queer community, or any individual who  
17 identifies as a member of a sexual or gender minority, including  
18 intersex, asexual, or pansexual individuals.

19       **§ -3 Hawaii state lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender,**  
20 **queer, plus commission; membership.** (a) There is established  
21 the Hawaii state lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer,



1 plus commission for a special purpose within the department of  
2 human services for administrative purposes.

3 (b) The commission shall consist of the following:

4 (1) Ex officio, nonvoting members or their designees,  
5 including the:

6 (A) Superintendent of education;

7 (B) President of the University of Hawaii system;

8 (C) Director of labor and industrial relations;

9 (D) Director of human resources development;

10 (E) Director of human services; and

11 (F) Director of health;

12 (2) Seven voting members who shall be appointed by the  
13 governor in accordance with section 26-34; provided  
14 that of these seven members:

15 (A) One member shall be from the county of Hawaii;

16 (B) One member shall be from the county of Kauai;

17 (C) One member shall be from the county of Maui; and

18 (D) Four members shall be from the city and county of  
19 Honolulu.

20 (c) The governor shall appoint members of the commission  
21 on the basis of their interest and knowledge in, and their



1 ability to make contributions to, the solution of problems  
2 relating to the status of the lesbian, gay, bisexual,  
3 transgender, queer, plus community.

4 (d) A chairperson of the commission shall be elected  
5 annually from the seven appointed members of the commission. A  
6 quorum to do business or to validate any act of the commission  
7 shall consist of a majority of the seven appointed members of  
8 the commission.

9 § -4 **Compensation.** The members of the commission shall  
10 serve without compensation but shall be reimbursed for expenses,  
11 including travel expenses, necessary for the performance of  
12 their duties.

13 § -5 **Executive director.** The commission shall appoint  
14 an executive director for the proper administration and  
15 enforcement of this chapter. The executive director shall be  
16 appointed without regard to chapter 76.

17 § -6 **Powers and duties of the commission.** The  
18 commission shall:

19 (1) Act as a central clearinghouse and coordinating body  
20 for governmental and nongovernmental activities and  
21 information relating to the status of the lesbian,



- 1            gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, plus community in  
2            the State;
- 3            (2) Create public awareness and understanding of the  
4            responsibilities, needs, potentials, and contributions  
5            of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer,  
6            plus community and their roles in the changing  
7            society;
- 8            (3) Recommend legislative and administrative action on  
9            equal treatment and opportunities for members of the  
10           lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, plus  
11           community;
- 12           (4) Promote the diversity of cultural expressions of  
13           persons of all sexual orientations, gender identities,  
14           gender expressions, and sex characteristics and ensure  
15           the recognition of culturally-based sexual and gender  
16           identities specific to Hawaii, such as mahu and  
17           aikane;
- 18           (5) Encourage a long-range program of education of members  
19           of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer,  
20           plus community about their political rights and



- 1           responsibilities, particularly with respect to their  
2           voting duties;
- 3           (6) Maintain contacts with appropriate federal, state,  
4           local, and international agencies concerned with the  
5           status of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender,  
6           queer, plus community;
- 7           (7) Cooperate and collaborate with national groups on the  
8           status of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender,  
9           queer, plus community and arrange for participation by  
10          representatives of the State in White House  
11          conferences and other national conferences;
- 12          (8) Administer funds allocated for the commission's work,  
13          including accepting, disbursing, and allocating funds  
14          that may become available from other governmental and  
15          private sources; provided that all funds shall be  
16          disbursed or allocated in compliance with any specific  
17          designation stated by the donor; provided further that  
18          in the absence of any specific designation, the funds  
19          shall be disbursed or allocated to projects related to  
20          any of the purposes of this chapter; and



1 (9) Submit to the governor and legislature an annual  
2 report with recommendations.

3 § -7 County committees on lesbian, gay, bisexual,  
4 transgender, queer, plus affairs; membership; organization. (a)

5 The mayor of each county may appoint a county committee. Each  
6 county committee may be charged with:

7 (1) The duty and responsibility of developing information  
8 as the commission requires or as the county committee  
9 deems advisable concerning the status of the members  
10 of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer,  
11 plus community within the respective counties; and

12 (2) Any other appropriate duties and responsibilities as  
13 may be deemed necessary by the respective counties.

14 (b) The county committees may submit to the commission  
15 plans and proposals affecting the status of members of the  
16 lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, plus community in  
17 the respective counties.

18 (c) Each county committee may endeavor to secure the  
19 widest possible citizen participation in its efforts and, for  
20 this purpose, use existing public or private organizations.

21 Each county committee may include the county attorney or



1 corporation counsel and the county representative of the  
 2 commission as ex officio members. The other members may be  
 3 selected on the basis of their interest and knowledge in, and  
 4 their ability to make contributions to, the solution of problems  
 5 relating to the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, plus  
 6 community within the respective county and their knowledge of  
 7 local conditions. The chairperson of each county committee may  
 8 be elected annually from the nongovernmental members of the  
 9 committee. The terms of office of each member may be four  
 10 years. Each county committee may meet at least four times a  
 11 year. The members of the county committees may not receive  
 12 compensation for their services. The respective county  
 13 legislative bodies are authorized to make appropriations to meet  
 14 the necessary expenses of their respective committees."

15 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general  
 16 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so  
 17 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2020-2021 for  
 18 the Hawaii state lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer,  
 19 plus commission and to carry out the purposes of this Act.

20 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of  
 21 human services for the purposes of this Act.





1 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on December 31,  
2 2059.



**Report Title:**

Hawaii State Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Plus  
Commission; Appropriation

**Description:**

Establishes the Hawaii state lesbian, gay, bisexual,  
transgender, queer, plus commission. Appropriates funds.  
Effective 12/31/2059. (SD1)

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not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

