
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE HAWAII TOURISM AUTHORITY TO HELP ADDRESS THE IMPACTS
OF INCREASED TOURISM ON LOCAL COMMUNITIES.

1 WHEREAS, tourism has long been a pillar of Hawaii's modern
2 economy; and

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4 WHEREAS, the tourism industry employs numerous residents
5 and positively benefits the State's economy in various ways; and

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7 WHEREAS, the annual number of visitors to Hawaii has more
8 than doubled from 4,800,000 in 1985, to 10,000,000 in 2019; and

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10 WHEREAS, residents of Hawaii are increasingly experiencing
11 the impact of increased tourism on the quality of daily life;
12 and

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14 WHEREAS, tourist demand for non-hotel and non-resort
15 lodging has contributed to increasing rent and other high costs
16 of housing for local residents in numerous areas; and

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18 WHEREAS, the increased number of visitors on Hawaii's roads
19 has increased traffic congestion, decreased available parking,
20 and exacerbated deterioration of roadways and infrastructure;
21 and

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23 WHEREAS, the increased number of visitors has also strained
24 natural resources; crowded public beaches, trails, and public
25 spaces; and increased the cost of properly maintaining public
26 infrastructure and natural resources; and

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28 WHEREAS, on average, each visitor to Hawaii is spending
29 less in Hawaii than in previous years; and
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1 WHEREAS, additional moneys spent by tourists could be used
2 to pay for public services, infrastructure, and other needs for
3 which local taxpayers are currently forced to pay; and
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5 WHEREAS, recent surveys and polls show that the general
6 public's attitudes towards tourism are growing increasingly
7 negative; and
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9 WHEREAS, more should be done to address the impacts of
10 tourism on local communities and better balance the benefits of
11 tourism and the needs of local residents; and
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13 WHEREAS, the mission of the Hawaii Tourism Authority is to
14 manage the strategic growth of Hawaii's visitor industry in a
15 manner consistent with the economic goals, cultural values,
16 natural resource preservation efforts, and community interests
17 of the residents of Hawaii; now, therefore,
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19 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
20 Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of
21 2020, the Senate concurring, that the Hawaii Tourism Authority
22 is requested to help address the impacts of increased tourism on
23 local communities; and
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25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hawaii Tourism Authority is
26 encouraged to collaborate with relevant stakeholders and
27 communicate with affected communities to identify issues and
28 areas of concern and develop recommendations to address these
29 issues and areas of concern; and
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31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hawaii Tourism Authority is
32 requested to report its findings and recommendations, including
33 any proposed legislation, to the Legislature not less than
34 twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of
35 2022; and
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37 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that until plans have been developed
38 to address tourism-related impacts on local communities, the
39 Hawaii Tourism Authority is requested to focus its efforts on
40 increasing the amount of money spent by visitors to Hawaii
41 instead of increasing the number of visitors to Hawaii beyond
42 10,000,000 per year; and



H.C.R. NO. 196

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
2 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Chief
3 Executive Officer of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, President
4 and Chief Executive Officer of the Hawaii Tourism Authority, and
5 Mayor of each county.

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OFFERED BY: _____



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