

---

---

## HOUSE 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

3  
4           WHEREAS, the tourism industry employs numerous residents  
5 and positively benefits the State's economy in various ways; and

6  
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

9  
10          WHEREAS, residents of Hawaii are increasingly experiencing  
11 the impact of increased tourism on the quality of daily life;  
12 and

13  
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

17  
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

22  
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

27  
28          WHEREAS, on average, each visitor to Hawaii is spending  
29 less in Hawaii than in previous years; and

30  
31          WHEREAS, additional moneys spent by tourists could be used  
32 to pay for public services, infrastructure, and other needs for  
33 which local taxpayers are currently forced to pay; and



1  
2 WHEREAS, recent surveys and polls show that the general  
3 public's attitudes towards tourism are growing increasingly  
4 negative; and  
5

6 WHEREAS, more should be done to address the impacts of  
7 tourism on local communities and better balance the benefits of  
8 tourism and the needs of local residents; and  
9

10 WHEREAS, the mission of the Hawaii Tourism Authority is to  
11 manage the strategic growth of Hawaii's visitor industry in a  
12 manner consistent with the economic goals, cultural values,  
13 natural resource preservation efforts, and community interests  
14 of the residents of Hawaii; now, therefore,  
15

16 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
17 Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of  
18 2020, that the Hawaii Tourism Authority is requested to help  
19 address the impacts of increased tourism on local communities;  
20 and  
21

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hawaii Tourism Authority is  
23 encouraged to collaborate with relevant stakeholders and  
24 communicate with affected communities to identify issues and  
25 areas of concern and develop recommendations to address these  
26 issues and areas of concern; and  
27

28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hawaii Tourism Authority is  
29 requested to report its findings and recommendations, including  
30 any proposed legislation, to the Legislature not less than  
31 twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of  
32 2022; and  
33

34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that until plans have been developed  
35 to address tourism-related impacts on local communities, the  
36 Hawaii Tourism Authority is requested to focus its efforts on  
37 increasing the amount of money spent by visitors to Hawaii  
38 instead of increasing the number of visitors to Hawaii beyond  
39 10,000,000 per year; and

40 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
41 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Chief Executive  
42 Officer of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, President and Chief



1 Executive Officer of the Hawaii Tourism Authority, and Mayor of  
2 each county.

3  
4  
5

OFFERED BY:



MAR - 6 2020

