

FEB 27 2020

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE STATE TO IMPLEMENT A STATEWIDE RESPONSIBLE TOURISM
INITIATIVE TO HELP EDUCATE TOURING VISITORS ABOUT
SUSTAINABLE BEHAVIORS WITH RESPECT TO SUNSCREENS,
POLYSTYRENE, AND SINGLE-USE PLASTICS.

1 WHEREAS, the State recognizes the harmful impacts that
2 single-use plastics and polystyrene has on the natural
3 environment and that many of these products originate as a
4 result of Hawaii's tourism industry; and
5

6 WHEREAS, the State is committed to educating incoming
7 tourists participating in group or private tours on the harmful
8 effects of sunscreens containing oxybenzone or octinoxate,
9 single-use plastics, and polystyrene on the health of humans and
10 the environment; and
11

12 WHEREAS, visitors travel to Hawaii to experience the beauty
13 of its natural resources, ecosystems, and cultural values,
14 contributing nearly \$17,000,000,000 to the state economy each
15 year in doing so; and
16

17 WHEREAS, the number of visitors to Hawaii continues to
18 increase, nearing ten million visitors annually and putting
19 further strain on the natural environment of the islands; and
20

21 WHEREAS, an estimated forty percent of all incoming
22 visitors to Hawaii participate in a package or organized tour,
23 equating to approximately four million people per year; and
24

25 WHEREAS, Hawaii has the opportunity to educate
26 approximately four million incoming visitors per year, which can
27 have a significant impact on the consumer behavior of the global
28 population over time; and
29



1 WHEREAS, the cost of plastic pollution on marine litter
2 alone is estimated at \$13,000,000,000 per year, which includes
3 the impact on fisheries, tourism, and biodiversity; and
4

5 WHEREAS, the State currently produces more waste per capita
6 than any other state and much of this waste is generated from
7 the tourism industry; and
8

9 WHEREAS, feasible alternatives exist both on- and off-
10 island that tourists can purchase prior to their arrival or once
11 they have arrived in Hawaii; and
12

13 WHEREAS, surveys show that Hawaii residents are concerned
14 about the negative impacts of tourism on the State; and
15

16 WHEREAS, providing education to our incoming visitors will
17 benefit both the visitor experience and the quality of life for
18 all residents and communities as the negative impact of single-
19 use plastics, polystyrene, and sunscreens containing oxybenzone
20 or octinoxate decrease in use, allowing for restoration of the
21 waterways, beaches, oceans, and roadways; now, therefore,
22

23 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirtieth Legislature
24 of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2020, the House of
25 Representatives concurring, that the State is urged to implement
26 a statewide responsible tourism initiative to help educate
27 tourist visitors about sustainable behaviors with respect to
28 sunscreen containing oxybenzone or octinoxate, polystyrene, and
29 single-use plastic food service items; and
30

31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a tourism waste education
32 advisory group is requested to be convened to recommend, assess,
33 and advise on the statewide responsible tourism initiative; and
34

35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the advisory group consist of
36 the following:
37

- 38 (1) The Chairperson of the Senate Standing Committee on
39 Agriculture and Environment;
40



- 1 (2) The Chairperson of the House of Representatives
2 Standing Committee on Energy and Environmental
3 Protection;
- 4
- 5 (3) The Attorney General, or the Attorney General's
6 designee;
- 7
- 8 (4) The Director of Health, or the Director's designee;
- 9
- 10 (5) The Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural
11 Resources, or the Chairperson's designee;
- 12
- 13 (6) The Executive Director of the Office of Consumer
14 Protection, or the Executive Director's designee;
- 15
- 16 (7) The President of the Hawaii Tourism Authority, or the
17 President's designee;
- 18
- 19 (8) A representative from the hotel industry;
- 20
- 21 (9) A representative from the hospitality industry;
- 22
- 23 (10) A representative from the environmental protection
24 community; and
- 25
- 26 (11) Others with relevant oversight or experience invited
27 by the Co-Chairs; and
- 28

29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of the advisory
30 group serve without compensation; and

31

32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chairperson of the Senate
33 Standing Committee on Agriculture and Environment and
34 Chairperson of the House of Representatives Standing Committee
35 on Energy and Environmental Protection are urged to convene the
36 first meeting of the advisory group; and

37

38 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of the advisory
39 group select Co-Chairs from among themselves; and

40

41 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the advisory group is requested
42 to submit a recommendation to implement a statewide responsible



S.C.R. NO. 39

1 tourism initiative to the legislature no later than December 31,
2 2020; and

3
4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the advisory group is requested
5 to submit a report of its findings and recommendations,
6 including any proposed legislation, to the legislature no later
7 than twenty days prior to the convening of each Regular Session;
8 and

9
10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the advisory group cease to
11 exist on December 31, 2025; and

12
13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
14 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Attorney
15 General, Director of Health, Director of Commerce and Consumer
16 Affairs, Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources,
17 and President of the Hawaii Tourism Authority.

18
19
20 OFFERED BY: Mike Gabbard

Ernie L. Brown

Anna M. ...
4011

[Signature]

[Signature]

Randy H. ...
Breene Hunt

[Signature]
[Signature]

[Signature]

[Signature]

Daniel ...

[Signature]

