
SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT TO
CONVENE A TASK FORCE TO REVIEW THE FUNCTIONS AND OPERATIONS
OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT AND IDENTIFY, AND MAKE
RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING, ANY FUNCTIONS OR OPERATIONS THAT
CAN BE MODIFIED IN A COST-EFFECTIVE MANNER TO MEET THE
CHANGING NEEDS OF THE PUBLIC.

1 WHEREAS, the State has a responsibility to provide services
2 to the public in the most efficient and effective manner
3 possible; and
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5 WHEREAS, the rapid global spread of the coronavirus disease
6 2019, or COVID-19, prompted Governor David Ige to declare a
7 state of emergency and issue several supplemental emergency
8 proclamations that imposed stay-at-home orders, mandatory
9 physical distancing measures, and a mandatory fourteen-day
10 quarantine for incoming visitors and residents, all of which
11 have severely impacted the State's economy and especially local
12 businesses, workers, and residents; and
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14 WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic exposed the need for the
15 state government to adjust its operations and shift employees in
16 order to provide vital services to the public more responsively
17 and effectively; and
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19 WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has caused, and is
20 continuing to cause, the State to reconsider the ways in which
21 governmental services are provided, including the use of
22 technology and the repurposing of offices, to safeguard the
23 safety and health of the public and the State's employees; and
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25 WHEREAS, as the State prepares its workforce for the future
26 post-pandemic world, each of the State's departments and
27 agencies will need to evaluate its existing systems and make any
28 changes necessary to address deficiencies in that department or
29 agency and improve the overall organization and functions of the
30 state government; and



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WHEREAS, although the State, as a public employer, has the right to direct and, pursuant to section 89-9, Hawaii Revised States, negotiate certain issues with its employees, this body recognizes that, pursuant to section 89-1, Hawaii Revised Statutes, "it is the public policy of the State to promote harmonious and cooperative relations between government and its employees and to protect the public by assuring effective and orderly operations of government"; and

WHEREAS, an exchange of ideas and information between the State and its employees is the best way for the State to determine how best to improve government operations in order to serve the "new needs" of the public; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2020, that the Department of Human Resources Development is requested to convene a task force to review the functions and operations of the state government and identify, and make recommendations regarding, any functions or operations that can be modified in a cost-effective manner to meet the changing needs of the public; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Director of Human Resources Development is requested to serve as the Chairperson of the task force; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to include the following:

- (1) A representative of the Governor's Office, to be appointed by the Governor;
- (2) The Attorney General or the Attorney General's designee;
- (3) A representative of the Senate, to be appointed by the President of the Senate; and



1 (4) A representative of the House of Representatives, to
2 be appointed by the Speaker of the House of
3 Representatives; and
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5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Director of Human Resources
6 Development is requested to invite the following to participate
7 on the task force:
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9 (1) The Executive Director of the Hawaii Government
10 Employees Association or the Executive Director's
11 designee; and
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13 (2) The State Director of United Public Workers or the
14 State Director's designee; and
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16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to
17 evaluate the state government's current functions and services
18 and recommend to each affected department and agency
19 improvements to that department or agency's programs and
20 operations that could benefit residents of the State; and
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22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to
23 submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the
24 Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
25 the Regular Session of 2022; and
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27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall cease to
28 exist upon the adjournment sine die of the Regular Session of
29 2022; and
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31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
32 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, President of the
33 Senate, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Attorney
34 General, Director of Human Resources Development, Executive
35 Director of the Hawaii Government Employees Association, and
36 State Director of United Public Workers.

