HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE AUDITOR TO CONDUCT A REVIEW OF THE EFFICACY OF THE TECHNOLOGY RESOURCES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS.

WHEREAS, unemployment insurance applications received by Hawaii during the COVID-19 pandemic are being processed on a government mainframe computer system that was installed in the early 1980s and upgraded about five years ago; and

WHEREAS, a long-term fix beyond the recent scramble of system patches reportedly will not be implemented until 2022, at the earliest; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations has tried to control the mainframe traffic by creating separate online portals, with the mainframe regularly updating those portals with the latest data, but the mainframe was never designed to be a web service; and

WHEREAS, the Department largely places the blame for its current predicament on its federal counterparts at the United States Department of Labor, who state officials say have failed to provide adequate funding to modernize states' unemployment information technology systems; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Thirty-first Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2021, that the Auditor is requested to conduct a review of the efficacy of the technology resources of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Auditor is requested to make recommendations on how the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations may improve its services to the public and what other resources may be needed to implement those recommendations; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Auditor is requested to
submit findings and recommendations, including any proposed
legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior
to the convening of the Regular Session of 2022; and
to the convening of the Regular Session of 2022, and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
Resolution be transmitted to the Auditor and Director of Labor
and Industrial Relations