
SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING STATEWIDE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS
UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW RECOMMENDATIONS.

1 WHEREAS, the United Nations (UN) established the Universal
2 Periodic Review (UPR) in 2006 to review the human rights records
3 of all one hundred ninety-three UN member states, with the goal
4 of improving human rights; and

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6 WHEREAS, every UN member state appears and actively
7 participates in the UPR hosted by the UN Human Rights Council
8 Working Group in Geneva twice a decade, with each review cycle
9 lasting four and a half years; and

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11 WHEREAS, the United States appeared at the UPR in 2010,
12 2014, and most recently on November 9, 2020; and

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14 WHEREAS, hundreds of recommendations have been suggested to
15 improve and produce a positive impact in Hawai'i and the United
16 States; and

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18 WHEREAS, Hawai'i is an island state with a multicultural
19 population from around the world, recognizing the ancestral
20 wisdom of our host culture, cherishing our natural environment,
21 and recognizing our unique role in the United States and global
22 community; and

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24 WHEREAS, Hawai'i was considered in 1944 by President
25 Franklin D. Roosevelt as a potential host for the UN
26 headquarters, to serve as a global diplomatic hub; and

27
28 WHEREAS, Hawai'i has had civil society and community
29 associations participate in all three UPR cycles and found that
30 the stakeholder submissions and recommendations issued provided
31 a heightened awareness among state legislators of the
32 significance of promoting and protecting human rights at home in
33 Hawai'i; and
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1 WHEREAS, Hawai'i hosts an annual Human Rights Day to
2 illuminate important and imminent issues at the international
3 and island levels and to review the recommendations provided in
4 the UPR; and

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6 WHEREAS, Hawai'i was designated as America's first Human
7 Rights state by House Resolution No. 194, which was adopted by
8 the House of Representatives of the Twenty-seventh Legislature
9 of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2014; and

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11 WHEREAS, Hawai'i was the first state to conduct a Voluntary
12 Local Review at the UN, sharing our local strategies regarding
13 the UN's 17 Sustainable Development Goals through our Aloha+
14 Challenge; and

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16 WHEREAS, the Office of Planning has supported the UN's 17
17 Sustainable Development Goals and the 2030 Agenda for
18 Sustainable Development, and it has aligned them with the Hawai'i
19 State Planning Act, the Hawai'i 2050 Sustainability Plan, and the
20 State of Hawaii's Aloha+ Challenge; and

21
22 WHEREAS, Hawai'i continues to bring together civil society
23 to review the UPR recommendations and to discuss innovative
24 initiatives to realize human rights at home; and

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26 WHEREAS, in spring 2021, the UN Office of the High
27 Commissioner for Human Rights will issue a report connecting the
28 third UPR human rights recommendations with the 17 Sustainable
29 Development Goals, which can be used as a guide to achieve the
30 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Hawai'i; and

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32 WHEREAS, civil society can generate solutions and share
33 templates that provide concise, complete contributions about how
34 to realize human rights on every Hawaiian island; and

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36 WHEREAS, Hawai'i continues to be pioneer in peace,
37 sustainability, human rights, and global justice, partnering
38 with city and county councils, as well as leadership from state
39 agencies and elected public officials, to maintain the human
40 rights movement in Hawai'i; and



1 WHEREAS, Hawai'i continues to participate in all phases of
2 the UN processes, and it will continue to organize community
3 conversations and commemorations for upcoming global events such
4 as the Paris Agreement, using a locally determined contribution
5 (LDC) to supplement the nationally determined contribution (NDC)
6 and future reports to the United Nations Human Rights Core
7 Treaty Bodies; now, therefore,

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9 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-first
10 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2021,
11 that the Office of Planning is requested to implement the
12 recommendations of the third Universal Periodic Review statewide
13 across all executive departments in furtherance of the State's
14 Planning Act; and

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16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
17 Resolution be transmitted to the UN Secretary General, UN High
18 Commissioner for Human Rights, President of the United States,
19 Vice President of the United States, Speaker of the U.S. House
20 of Representatives, Majority Leader of the U.S. Senate, Hawai'i's
21 congressional delegation, U.S. Department of State, Special
22 Presidential Envoy for Climate, Governor, and Director of
23 Planning.

