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SENATE RESOLUTION

URGING THE COUNTY OF HAWAI'I TO UTILIZE THE DATA RESULTING FROM
THE 2020 UNITED STATES CENSUS TO ESTABLISH, IF ALLOWABLE, A
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION FOR THE COUNTY OF
HAWAI'I.

WHEREAS, the 2020 United States Census, once the results become available, will provide critical data that lawmakers, business owners, and many others may use to provide daily services, products, and support for communities across the nation; and

WHEREAS, metropolitan planning organizations were established to serve as a forum for collaboration among local communities and government agencies and to direct federal funds toward projects that increase access to opportunity and prosperity through improved multimodal pedestrian, bicycle, and transit options; and

WHEREAS, the Maui Metropolitan Planning Organization is a federally mandated government agency formed in 2016 by the State of Hawai'i and County of Maui to facilitate the continuing, cooperative, and comprehensive planning for federally funded or regionally significant transportation systems on the island of Maui with adequate and informed representation from the state and county; and

WHEREAS, according to the United States Census Bureau estimates from 2017, the population of the County of Maui in 2016 was 165,384, surpassing the federal threshold of fifty thousand to be considered an urbanized area; and

WHEREAS, according to the same United States Census Bureau estimates, the population of the County of Hawai'i in 2016 was 198,691, well surpassing the federal threshold and the County of Maui population in 2016; and

WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of the policy board of the metropolitan planning organization to make decisions that

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are the result of the continuing, cooperative, and comprehensive transportation planning process and the organization's staff to support and provide technical resources to the policy board; and

WHEREAS, the County of Hawai'i does not have a metropolitan planning organization; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-first Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2021, that the County of Hawaiii is urged to utilize the data reported from the 2020 United States Census to establish, if allowable, a metropolitan planning organization for the County of Hawaii; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Mayor of the County of Hawai'i and Councilmembers of the County of Hawai'i.

OFFERED BY: