



GOV. MSG. NO. 1239

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS  
KE KE'ENA O KE KIA'ĀINA

JOSH GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR  
KE KIA'ĀINA

June 29, 2023

The Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi  
President of the Senate,  
and Members of the Senate  
Thirty-Second State Legislature  
State Capitol, Room 409  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

The Honorable Scott K. Saiki  
Speaker, and Members of the  
House of Representatives  
Thirty-Second State Legislature  
State Capitol, Room 431  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear President Kouchi, Speaker Saiki, and Members of the Legislature:

This is to inform you that on June 29, 2023, the following bill was signed into law:

SB811 SD2 HD2 CD1

RELATING TO DEMOGRAPHIC DATA.  
**ACT 136**

Sincerely,

Josh Green, M.D.  
Governor, State of Hawai'i

on JUN 29 2023

THE SENATE  
THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE, 2023  
STATE OF HAWAII

S.B. NO. 811  
S.D. 2  
H.D. 2  
C.D. 1

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO DEMOGRAPHIC DATA.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that Asian Americans and  
2 Native Hawaiians and other Pacific Islanders represent 46.5 per  
3 cent of the State's population. While Asian Americans and  
4 Native Hawaiians and other Pacific Islanders are often  
5 misrepresented as a homogeneous group, they are an extremely  
6 diverse group, comprising ethnicities from over thirty different  
7 countries. Asian American and Native Hawaiian and other Pacific  
8 Islander communities in this State experience diverse social,  
9 educational, health, and economic differences that are unique to  
10 their respective communities.

11 The legislature also finds that, due to this diversity, the  
12 United States Office of Management and Budget's Statistical  
13 Policy Directive No. 15, entitled "Race and Ethnic Standards for  
14 Federal Statistics and Administrative Reporting," separated the  
15 "Asian and Pacific Islander" category into two distinct and  
16 separate categories, now called "Asians" and "Native Hawaiians  
17 and Other Pacific Islanders," and these two distinct categories  
18 were used in the 2020 United States Census. The United States



1 Census Bureau currently reports data for more than twenty  
2 different ethnicities within these two categories.

3         Despite the federal government's current policy and  
4 practice of disaggregating data related to Asian Americans and  
5 Native Hawaiians and other Pacific Islanders, not all of  
6 Hawaii's state agencies keep demographic data in a standard or  
7 uniform manner that comports with these prevailing federal  
8 standards. Moreover, most state agencies do not make collected  
9 demographic data accessible to the public so that regional and  
10 local governments, elected officials, decision makers, and other  
11 stakeholders can use the information to strategically target  
12 programs for those most in need.

13         Given the diversity of languages and cultures, separating  
14 data for Asian American and Native Hawaiian and other Pacific  
15 Islander ethnic groups is imperative and making this data  
16 publicly accessible is critical for enhancing understanding of  
17 the needs and experiences of these different communities.  
18 Disaggregating race data for collection, analysis and  
19 evaluation, access, and dissemination can aid in shaping  
20 programs and policies to advance more equitable outcomes for all  
21 communities in the State.



1 In particular, the State has unique trust responsibilities  
2 with respect to Native Hawaiians, which are administered by a  
3 variety of state agencies, including but not limited to the  
4 office of Hawaiian affairs. The uniform collection and sharing  
5 of data specific to Native Hawaiians is critical to the proper  
6 administration of the State's trust responsibilities and  
7 improving the conditions of Native Hawaiians through other  
8 similar initiatives.

9 The purpose of this Act is to establish a task force on  
10 twenty-first century data governance to assess current  
11 demographic data collection, processing, retention, and sharing  
12 procedures used by, needs of, and challenges faced by all state  
13 agencies.

14 SECTION 2. (a) There is established a task force on  
15 twenty-first century data governance.

16 (b) The task force shall assess current demographic data  
17 collection, processing, retention, and sharing procedures used  
18 by, needs of, and challenges faced by all state agencies.

19 (c) The members of the task force shall include:

20 (1) The director of the office of planning and sustainable  
21 development, or the director's designee;



- 1           (2) The chief information officer of the office of
- 2                   enterprise technology services, or the chief
- 3                   information officer's designee;
- 4           (3) The chief executive officer of the office of Hawaiian
- 5                   affairs, or the chief executive officer's designee;
- 6           (4) The director of the department of health's office of
- 7                   health equity, or the director's designee; and
- 8           (5) Other relevant members to be identified by the task
- 9                   force.
- 10          (d) The task force shall submit a report of its findings
- 11           and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the
- 12           legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
- 13           the regular session of 2024.
- 14          (e) The task force shall be dissolved on June 30, 2024.
- 15          SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

APPROVED this 29th day of June, 2023




GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

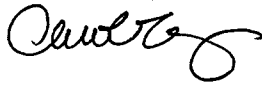


**THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF HAWAI'I**

Date: May 2, 2023  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

We hereby certify that the foregoing Bill this day passed Final Reading in the Senate of the Thirty-Second Legislature of the State of Hawai'i, Regular Session of 2023.

  
President of the Senate

  
Clerk of the Senate

SB No. 811, SD 2, HD 2, CD 1

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

Date: May 2, 2023  
Honolulu, Hawaii

We hereby certify that the above-referenced Bill on this day passed Final Reading in the House of Representatives of the Thirty-Second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2023.



Scott K. Saiki  
Speaker  
House of Representatives



Brian L. Takeshita  
Chief Clerk  
House of Representatives