
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE FORMATION OF A WORKING GROUP TO CREATE A PLAN
REGARDING THE RETURN OF CULTURAL ARTIFACTS.

1 WHEREAS, cultural artifacts are an important part of the
2 history of any people; and
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4 WHEREAS, many of Hawaii's cultural artifacts have been
5 transported out of the State; and
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7 WHEREAS, likewise, many persons in Hawaii possess cultural
8 artifacts that rightfully belong to other lands; and
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10 WHEREAS, the State should take action to facilitate the
11 return of all cultural artifacts; now, therefore,
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13 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
14 Thirty-second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
15 Session of 2023, the Senate concurring, that the Chairperson of
16 the Board of Trustees of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs and the
17 President and Chief Executive Officer of the Council for Native
18 Hawaiian Advancement, or their respective designees, are
19 requested to form and serve as Co-Chairs of a Cultural Artifact
20 Return Working Group; and
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22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Co-Chairs of the working
23 group are requested to invite museum representatives, cultural
24 and historical experts, and other appropriate individuals to
25 serve as members of the working group; and
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27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested
28 to create a plan to:
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- 30 (1) Request the return of Hawaii's cultural artifacts to
31 the State; and
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1 (2) Arrange for the return of cultural artifacts in Hawaii
2 that rightfully belong to other lands,
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4 in a manner that promotes cross-cultural respect and aloha;
5 provided that for purposes of this measure, "cultural artifact"
6 means any manmade item that contains important information about
7 the people and culture of a society, but excludes human remains
8 and funerary objects; and
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10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Cultural Artifact Return
11 Working Group is requested to submit a report of its plan,
12 including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later
13 than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session
14 of 2024; and
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16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group be considered
17 dissolved after the last day of the Regular Session of 2024; and
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19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
20 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the
21 Board of Trustees of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs and the
22 President and Chief Executive Officer of the Council for Native
23 Hawaiian Advancement.

