
SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE HAWAII TOURISM AUTHORITY TO STUDY THE FEASIBILITY OF DEVELOPING A HOTEL, TRAINING HOTEL, OR OTHER COMMERCIAL RETAIL FACILITY ABOVE THE HAWAII CONVENTION CENTER FACILITY.

1 WHEREAS, the Hawaii Convention Center is a \$350,000,000
2 state project that was completed in October 1997; and

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4 WHEREAS, the Hawaii Convention Center, located at the
5 entrance to Waikiki, was designed to convey a "Hawaiian Sense of
6 Place"; and

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8 WHEREAS, the facility includes a 35,000 square foot
9 registration lobby, 200,000 square foot exhibition hall, nearly
10 150,000 square feet of meeting space, including two presentation
11 theaters, a 35,000 square foot ballroom, 20,000 square foot
12 production kitchen, and 2.5 acre landscaped rooftop garden, with
13 700 parking stalls available on the premises; and

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15 WHEREAS, the Hawaii Convention Center also provides a wide
16 array of technology and telecommunications equipment and
17 services for convention planners and attendees; and

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19 WHEREAS, the Hawaii Convention Center has received a
20 continued stream of awards for all aspects of convention
21 management, and is a winner of thirteen consecutive Prime Site
22 Awards for 1999-2011 from Facilities & Destinations Magazine;
23 and

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25 WHEREAS, three of the Hawaii Convention Center's largest
26 meetings of 2011 made significant contributions to Hawaii
27 schools, hospitals, nonprofit organizations, and communities,
28 all while attracting more than 25,000 participants from around
29 the world, resulting in more than \$120,000,000 in state revenue;
30 and

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32 WHEREAS, the location of the Hawaii Convention Center and
33 the many amenities it offers may provide additional



1 opportunities for an expansion of convention-related
2 initiatives; now, therefore,

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4 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-sixth
5 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2012,
6 that the Hawaii Tourism Authority is requested to study the
7 feasibility of developing a hotel, training hotel, or other
8 commercial retail facility, as determined by the Board of
9 Directors of the Hawaii Tourism Authority, above the Hawaii
10 Convention Center facility, including the consideration of the
11 following:

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- 13 (1) Site and other logistical issues related to the
- 14 development of a hotel or other facility at this
- 15 location, including traffic and infrastructure
- 16 demands;
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- 18 (2) Jurisdictional, permitting, design, construction, and
- 19 funding requirements;
- 20
- 21 (3) Interest by private sector developers;
- 22
- 23 (4) Public-private partnerships for development and
- 24 operations of such a hotel or other facility,
- 25 including a partnership with the University of Hawaii
- 26 School of Travel Industry Management for the provision
- 27 of internships, externships, and other professional
- 28 development opportunities for students enrolled in the
- 29 school and the operation of a training hotel; and
- 30
- 31 (5) Any other pertinent issues that may have a direct or
- 32 indirect impact on the development of a hotel,
- 33 training hotel, or other commercial retail facility;
- 34 and
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36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the feasibility study be
37 undertaken in conjunction with a baseline study of the current
38 operations of the Hawaii Convention Center to more accurately
39 determine the impact that the development of such a hotel,
40 training hotel, or other commercial retail facility may have on
41 the Hawaii Convention Center, including its operations and
42 management, physical assets and constraints, short- and long-
43 range plans for the facility, and any legal issues that may



1 arise as a result of changes to the Hawaii Convention Center;
2 and

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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hawaii Tourism Authority is
5 requested to report the findings and results of the feasibility
6 study, including any recommendations requiring legislative
7 approval, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to
8 the convening of the Regular Session of 2013; and

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10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
11 Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the Board of
12 Directors and the President and Chief Executive Officer of the
13 Hawaii Tourism Authority; and the Dean of the University of
14 Hawaii School of Travel Industry Management.

