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# SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE STATE'S FULL COMPLIANCE WITH THE UNITED STATES OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET'S STATISTICAL POLICY DIRECTIVE NO. 15, ENTITLED "RACE AND ETHNIC STANDARDS FOR FEDERAL STATISTICS AND ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTING", AND THE PUBLICATION OF COLLECTED RACE AND ETHNICITY DATA SUBJECT TO APPLICABLE STATE AND FEDERAL LAWS.

1           WHEREAS, Asian Americans, native Hawaiians and other  
2 Pacific Islanders represent approximately 70 percent of the  
3 State's population; and  
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5           WHEREAS, while Asian Americans, native Hawaiians, and other  
6 Pacific Islanders are often misrepresented as a homogeneous  
7 group, they are an extremely diverse group, with ethnicities  
8 from over thirty different countries; and  
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10          WHEREAS, Asian American, native Hawaiian, and other Pacific  
11 Islander communities in this State experience diverse social,  
12 educational, health, and economic differences that are unique to  
13 their respective communities; and  
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15          WHEREAS, due to this diversity, the United States Office of  
16 Management and Budget's Statistical Policy Directive No. 15,  
17 entitled "Race and Ethnic Standards for Federal Statistics and  
18 Administrative Reporting", separated the "Asian and Pacific  
19 Islander" category into two distinct and separate categories,  
20 now called "Asians" and "Native Hawaiians and Other Pacific  
21 Islanders"; and  
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23          WHEREAS, Hawaii's state agencies do not keep demographic  
24 data in a standard or uniform manner that comports with these  
25 prevailing federal standards; and

26          WHEREAS, most state agencies do not make collected  
27 demographic data accessible to the public so that regional and  
28 local governments, elected officials, decision makers, and other  
29 stakeholders can use the information to strategically target  
30 programs for those most in need; and  
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1           WHEREAS, given the diversity of languages and cultures,  
2 separating data for Asian American, native Hawaiian, and other  
3 Pacific Islander ethnic groups and making the data publicly  
4 accessible are critical for enhancing understanding of the needs  
5 and experiences of these different communities; and  
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7           WHEREAS, in particular, the State has unique trust  
8 responsibilities with respect to native Hawaiians, which are  
9 administered by a variety of state agencies, including but not  
10 limited to the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; and  
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12           WHEREAS, the uniform collection and sharing of data  
13 specific to native Hawaiians is critical to the proper  
14 administration of the State's trust responsibilities and the  
15 betterment of the conditions of native Hawaiians through other  
16 similar initiatives; now, therefore,  
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18           BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-sixth  
19 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2012,  
20 that the Governor is requested to direct all state departments  
21 to comply fully with the United States Office of Management and  
22 Budget's Statistical Policy Directive No. 15, entitled "Race and  
23 Ethnic Standards for Federal Statistics and Administrative  
24 Reporting"; and  
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26           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Governor is requested to  
27 direct all state departments to make the collected race and  
28 ethnicity data available to the public, subject to applicable  
29 state and federal laws; and  
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31           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
32 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor and the Chairperson of  
33 the Board of Trustees of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs.

