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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that every year laws are  
2 enacted that require government departments, agencies, and  
3 offices to conduct new studies and audits and report the  
4 findings and recommendations of those studies and audits to the  
5 legislature. The volume of reports required each year and the  
6 number of reporting entities involved in creating those reports  
7 makes it difficult for the legislature to effectively track and  
8 review the required reports for purposes of accountability.  
9 Therefore, it is necessary to establish a streamlined system in  
10 which the legislature can be accurately informed about which  
11 departments, agencies, and offices are and are not meeting their  
12 reporting requirements.

13           The legislature also finds that the legislative reference  
14 bureau is already tasked with creating a report outlining the  
15 measures that require the submission of a report to the  
16 legislature. The legislative reference bureau is therefore the  
17 appropriate entity to collect and manage more detailed



1 information relating to required reports and the submission of  
2 those reports to the legislature each session.

3 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to:

4 (1) Require the appropriate receiving elective officer of  
5 each chamber of the legislature to promptly notify the  
6 legislative reference bureau of the receipt of any  
7 report required by law to be submitted to the  
8 legislature or requested by legislative concurrent  
9 resolution;

10 (2) Require the legislative reference bureau to develop a  
11 searchable electronic database, posting all reports to  
12 be submitted to the legislature as required by law or  
13 requested by legislative concurrent resolution, to be  
14 made available on the legislative reference bureau's  
15 public website;

16 (3) Require the legislative reference bureau to inform the  
17 legislature of all annual and other reports required  
18 by law to be submitted to the legislature or requested  
19 by legislative concurrent resolution that were not  
20 timely submitted; and



1           (4) Require governmental agencies that submit reports to  
 2           include certain information in their reports to  
 3           facilitate the legislative reference bureau's timely  
 4           reporting of the submission of those reports.

5           SECTION 2. Chapter 21, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended  
 6 as follows:

7           1. By amending its title to read:

8           **"LEGISLATIVE [~~HEARINGS AND PROCEDURE~~] OPERATIONS"**

9           2. By designating sections 21-1 to 21-19, Hawaii Revised  
 10 Statutes, as **"PART I. LEGISLATIVE INVESTIGATING COMMITTEES"**.

11           3. By amending sections 21-1, 21-2, 21-6, 21-13, 21-15,  
 12 and 21-19, Hawaii Revised Statutes, by substituting the word  
 13 "part" wherever the word "chapter" appears, as the context  
 14 requires.

15           4. By adding a new part to be appropriately inserted and  
 16 to read:

17                               **"PART       .   GENERAL PROVISIONS**

18           **§21-       Reports received by the legislature; notification**  
 19 **to the legislative reference bureau. Upon the receipt of any**  
 20 **report required by law to be submitted to the legislature or**  
 21 **requested by legislative concurrent resolution, the appropriate**



1 receiving elective officer of each chamber shall promptly notify  
2 the legislative reference bureau of the date of receipt of the  
3 report."

4 SECTION 3. Section 23G-5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
5 amended to read as follows:

6 "[+]§23G-5[+] Annual and other reports to be submitted to  
7 legislature; tracking, monitoring, reporting, coordination. (a)  
8 The legislative reference bureau shall develop a system to track  
9 and monitor the submission of reports to the legislature by  
10 executive agencies and the judiciary. The system shall  
11 encompass all annual and other reports required by law to be  
12 submitted to the legislature[-] or requested by legislative  
13 concurrent resolution.

14 (b) For all annual and other reports required by law to be  
15 submitted to the legislature or requested by legislative  
16 concurrent resolution, the legislative reference bureau shall  
17 create a searchable electronic database detailing the following:

- 18 (1) A link to the report;  
19 (2) The number of the law or laws or legislative  
20 concurrent resolution requiring the report;  
21 (3) A description of the required contents of the report;



1       (4) If applicable, the amount appropriated for the report  
2       or for a study that was the basis for the report, if  
3       the appropriation amount is clearly specified in the  
4       law or laws or legislative concurrent resolution or is  
5       made available by the agency required to submit the  
6       report or study, pursuant to section 93-16(a)(3);

7       (5) The date on which the report is due to the  
8       legislature; and

9       (6) The date on which the legislature received the  
10       required report, including a clear category as to  
11       which reports were untimely submitted, or were not  
12       submitted, as to the legislative reference bureau  
13       pursuant to section 21- .

14       The legislative reference bureau shall update the database to  
15       indicate which required or requested reports have been  
16       submitted, no later than ten days after the convening of each  
17       regular legislative session.

18       (c) A copy of all annual and other reports required by law  
19       to be submitted to the legislature or requested by legislative  
20       concurrent resolution shall be provided to the legislative



1 reference bureau by the submitting government agency in  
2 accordance with section 93-16.

3 (d) No later than ten days after the convening of each  
4 regular session, the legislative reference bureau shall notify  
5 the legislature of all annual and other reports required by law  
6 to be submitted to the legislature or requested by legislative  
7 concurrent resolution that were not timely submitted."

8 SECTION 4. Section 93-16, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
9 amended by amending subsections (a) and (b) to read as follows:

10 "(a) Notwithstanding any other statute, law, charter  
11 provision, ordinance, or rule to the contrary, whenever a  
12 government agency is required to submit a report to the  
13 legislature, the report shall [be]:

14 (1) ~~[Available]~~ Be available in printed and digital form;

15 (2) Clearly identify the law or laws or legislative  
16 concurrent resolution that required or requested the  
17 report, as appropriate;

18 (3) Include the amount appropriated for the report or for  
19 a study that was the basis for the report, as  
20 appropriate;



1        (4) Include the date by which the report was to be  
2        submitted to the legislature for review;  
3        [~~2~~ ~~Submitted~~] (5) Be submitted in printed form to the  
4        president of the senate, the speaker of the house of  
5        representatives, and the legislative reference bureau  
6        library; and  
7        [~~3~~ ~~Posted~~] (6) Be posted on the designated central State  
8        of Hawaii website[+] or  
9        [~~4~~ ~~Posted~~] on the Internet in an easily located manner.  
10       (b) If a government agency submits a report to the  
11       legislature that is a consolidation of reports mandated by law  
12       or requested by legislative concurrent resolution of that agency  
13       or of other agencies that are administratively attached to the  
14       government agency submitting the consolidated report, then the  
15       agency submitting the consolidated report shall also include:  
16       (1) A listing of each mandated report that is being  
17       included in the consolidated report[~~+~~and] by clearly  
18       identifying the law or laws or legislative concurrent  
19       resolution, as appropriate, that required or requested  
20       the report;



1           (2) The specific time period covered by the particular  
2           government agency's report, if different from the time  
3           period covered by the consolidated report[-]; and  
4           (3) The amount appropriated for the compiled report,  
5           broken down by cost for each report or study that is  
6           the basis for the report, as appropriate, that is  
7           included in the consolidated report."

8           SECTION 5. There is appropriated out of the general  
9 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$                    or so  
10 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2020-2021 for  
11 creation of a searchable electronic database as required  
12 pursuant to this Act.

13           The sum appropriated shall be expended by the legislative  
14 reference bureau for the purposes of this Act.

15           SECTION 6. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
16 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

17           SECTION 7. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.





**Report Title:**

Government Accountability; Legislative Reference Bureau;  
Searchable Database; Appropriation

**Description:**

Requires the Legislative Reference Bureau to develop a searchable electronic database of all reports to be submitted to the legislature as required by law or requested by concurrent resolution. Requires the Legislative Reference Bureau to inform the legislature of any annual or other reports required by law to be submitted to the legislature or requested by concurrent resolution that were not timely submitted. Requires reporting entities to submit a copy of all reports submitted to the legislature to the Legislative Reference Bureau. Appropriates funds. (SD1)

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