
SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND
TOURISM TO WORK IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE LEGISLATURE TO
CREATE SIXTY THOUSAND PERMANENT JOBS IN THE STATE BY 2022.

1 WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization
2 declared COVID-19 a worldwide pandemic, based on the large
3 number of cases diagnosed globally; and
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5 WHEREAS, to help mitigate the risks of COVID-19 and to
6 reduce the number of people exposed to the virus, Governor David
7 Ige issued a stay-at-home order that was in place from March 25,
8 2020, through May 5, 2020; and
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10 WHEREAS, while the stay-at-home order and other measures
11 have helped to control the spread of COVID-19 in the State,
12 these measures have had a detrimental effect on many sectors of
13 Hawaii's economy; and
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15 WHEREAS, according to the most recent report from the
16 United States Bureau of Labor Statistics, Hawaii's unemployment
17 rate is currently 22.3 percent; and
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19 WHEREAS, the Department of Business, Economic Development,
20 and Tourism projects that Hawaii's gross domestic product will
21 drop by 12.1 percent in 2020; and
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23 WHEREAS, the department also estimates that it will take
24 two years for local businesses to recover and to operate again
25 at pre-COVID-19 levels; and
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27 WHEREAS, economists from the University of Hawaii Economic
28 Research Organization predict that more than twenty-five
29 thousand residents will be forced to leave Hawaii by 2022 due to
30 the State's poor economic outlook and lack of sustainable
31 employment; now, therefore,
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1 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirtieth Legislature
2 of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2020, that the
3 Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism is
4 requested to work in conjunction with the Legislature to create
5 sixty thousand permanent jobs in the State by 2022; and
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7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Business,
8 Economic Development, and Tourism is urged to submit to the
9 Legislature a report of its recommendations, including any
10 proposed legislation, no later than twenty days prior to the
11 Regular Session of 2021; and
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13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
14 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor; Director of Business,
15 Economic Development, and Tourism; and Executive Director of the
16 University of Hawaii Economic Research Organization.

