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# SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT TO  
CONVENE A TASK FORCE TO REVIEW THE FUNCTIONS AND OPERATIONS  
OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT AND IDENTIFY, AND MAKE  
RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING, ANY FUNCTIONS OR OPERATIONS THAT  
CAN BE MODIFIED IN A COST-EFFECTIVE MANNER TO MEET THE  
CHANGING NEEDS OF THE PUBLIC.

1           WHEREAS, the State has a responsibility to provide services  
2 to the public in the most efficient and effective manner  
3 possible; and  
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5           WHEREAS, the rapid global spread of the coronavirus disease  
6 2019, or COVID-19, prompted Governor David Ige to declare a  
7 state of emergency and issue several supplemental emergency  
8 proclamations that imposed stay-at-home orders, mandatory  
9 physical distancing measures, and a mandatory fourteen-day  
10 quarantine for incoming visitors and residents, all of which  
11 have severely impacted the State's economy and especially local  
12 businesses, workers, and residents; and  
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14           WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic exposed the need for the  
15 state government to adjust its operations and shift employees in  
16 order to provide vital services to the public more responsively  
17 and effectively; and  
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19           WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has caused, and is  
20 continuing to cause, the State to reconsider the ways in which  
21 governmental services are provided, including the use of  
22 technology and the repurposing of offices, to safeguard the  
23 safety and health of the public and the State's employees; and  
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25           WHEREAS, as the State prepares its workforce for the future  
26 post-pandemic world, each of the State's departments and  
27 agencies will need to evaluate its existing systems and make any  
28 changes necessary to address deficiencies in that department or  
29 agency and improve the overall organization and functions of the  
30 state government; and



1  
2 WHEREAS, although the State, as a public employer, has the  
3 right to direct and, pursuant to section 89-9, Hawaii Revised  
4 States, negotiate certain issues with its employees, this body  
5 recognizes that, pursuant to section 89-1, Hawaii Revised  
6 Statutes, "it is the public policy of the State to promote  
7 harmonious and cooperative relations between government and its  
8 employees and to protect the public by assuring effective and  
9 orderly operations of government"; and

10  
11 WHEREAS, an exchange of ideas and information between the  
12 State and its employees is the best way for the State to  
13 determine how best to improve government operations in order to  
14 serve the "new needs" of the public; now, therefore,

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16 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirtieth Legislature  
17 of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2020, that the  
18 Department of Human Resources Development is requested to  
19 convene a task force to review the functions and operations of  
20 the state government and identify, and make recommendations  
21 regarding, any functions or operations that can be modified in a  
22 cost-effective manner to meet the changing needs of the public;  
23 and

24  
25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Director of Human Resources  
26 Development is requested to serve as the Chairperson of the task  
27 force; and

28  
29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to  
30 include the following:

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32 (1) A representative of the Governor's Office, to be  
33 appointed by the Governor;  
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35 (2) The Attorney General or the Attorney General's  
36 designee;  
37  
38 (3) A representative of the Senate, to be appointed by the  
39 President of the Senate; and  
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1 (4) A representative of the House of Representatives, to  
2 be appointed by the Speaker of the House of  
3 Representatives; and  
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5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Director of Human Resources  
6 Development is requested to invite the following to participate  
7 on the task force:  
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9 (1) The Executive Director of the Hawaii Government  
10 Employees Association or the Executive Director's  
11 designee; and  
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13 (2) The State Director of United Public Workers or the  
14 State Director's designee; and  
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16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to  
17 evaluate the state government's current functions and services  
18 and recommend to each affected department and agency  
19 improvements to that department or agency's programs and  
20 operations that could benefit residents of the State; and  
21

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to  
23 submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the  
24 Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of  
25 the Regular Session of 2022; and  
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27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall cease to  
28 exist upon the adjournment sine die of the Regular Session of  
29 2022; and  
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31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
32 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, President of the  
33 Senate, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Attorney  
34 General, Director of Human Resources Development, Executive  
35 Director of the Hawaii Government Employees Association, and  
36 State Director of United Public Workers.

