
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF 21ST CENTURY DATA GOVERNANCE FOR
FACT-BASED POLICYMAKING.

1 WHEREAS, the World Health Organization identifies health as
2 a fundamental human right; and

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4 WHEREAS, Native Hawaiians are the native people of Hawaii
5 and once maintained a thriving population of more than one
6 million inhabitants whose land and resource management practices
7 allowed them to live harmoniously with their environment; and

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9 WHEREAS, the arrival of westerners caused a shift in this
10 balance, resulting in the erosion and eventual loss of Native
11 Hawaiian governance over Hawaii's land and resources; and

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13 WHEREAS, a series of epidemics, from foreign diseases in
14 particular, contributed significantly to the historic decline of
15 the Native Hawaiian population and the generational trauma that
16 Native Hawaiians are still healing from today; and

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18 WHEREAS, the decimation of the Native Hawaiian population,
19 the dispossession and disconnection of Native Hawaiians from
20 their lands, and the overthrow of the Hawaiian Kingdom resulted
21 in further historical injustices and systemic inequities that
22 continue to impact the Native Hawaiian community; and

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24 WHEREAS, in recognition of the historical injustices and
25 ongoing inequities faced by Native Hawaiians, the Hawaii
26 Constitution and Hawaii Revised Statutes have established the
27 Office of Hawaiian Affairs as an agency dedicated to bettering
28 the conditions of Native Hawaiians; and

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30 WHEREAS, the Native Hawaiian Health Care Improvement Act
31 further acknowledged the poor health status of the Native



1 Hawaiian population and established Papa Ola Lokahi and the
2 Native Hawaiian Health Care Systems; and

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4 WHEREAS, Section 226-20, Hawaii Revised Statutes,
5 acknowledges the social determinants of health that influence
6 Native Hawaiian health and expresses the State's commitment to
7 reducing health disparities for Native Hawaiian and other groups
8 through a social determinants of health approach; and

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10 WHEREAS, to best accomplish the Hawaii State Planning Act's
11 objective of the "elimination of health disparities by
12 identifying and addressing social determinants of health,"
13 timely, clear, and detailed information on social determinants
14 such as housing, employment, health outcomes, and other factors
15 is critical; and

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17 WHEREAS, the Office of Management and Budget's Statistical
18 Policy Directive No. 15 (OMB-15), as amended, which establishes
19 the racial and ethnic standards for data collection,
20 disaggregates Polynesians, Micronesians, and Melanesians from
21 Asians, creating "Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander" as
22 a separate category; and

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24 WHEREAS, the separation of "Native Hawaiian or Other
25 Pacific Islander" from the "Asian" category was and remains
26 critical to informing policymaking and interventions that
27 directly and effectively target health and associated
28 disparities and inequities facing the Native Hawaiian and
29 Pacific Islander communities; and

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31 WHEREAS, the OMB-15 federal directive allows states to
32 create additional subcategories that further disaggregate the
33 seven federal categories for their own state purposes and allows
34 states to use existing data collection systems for race and
35 ethnicity, provided the data can be aggregated by the seven
36 federal categories; and

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38 WHEREAS, Hawaii is one of the few states to further
39 disaggregate Native Hawaiians from Pacific Islanders in certain
40 agencies' data collection and processing practices, which has
41 contributed significantly to efforts to understand and



1 effectively respond to certain impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic;
2 and

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4 WHEREAS, available information indicates that the COVID-19
5 pandemic has disproportionately impacted Native Hawaiians and
6 Pacific Islanders in substantial, varied, and respectively
7 unique ways and exacerbated their pre-pandemic health and
8 socioeconomic disparities; and

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10 WHEREAS, there continue to be substantial data gaps
11 regarding unemployment rates, infection trends, housing and
12 social service needs, law enforcement interactions, and other
13 pandemic-related outcomes specific to Native Hawaiians, other
14 Pacific Islanders, and other vulnerable communities that may
15 desperately need targeted and data-informed relief to address
16 their health and health-associated needs; and

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18 WHEREAS, the unavailability of timely, clear, and detailed
19 data and the lack of consistent data collection, processing,
20 retention, sharing, and governance practices in critical
21 government agencies have stymied efforts by the Office of
22 Hawaiian Affairs, Papa Ola Lokahi, and groups such as the Native
23 Hawaiian & Pacific Islander Hawaii COVID-19 Response, Recovery,
24 and Resilience Team to identify, develop, and advocate for
25 effective and targeted policies and interventions to address the
26 impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on the health and social
27 determinants of health of the Native Hawaiian and other Pacific
28 Islander communities in Hawaii; and

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30 WHEREAS, the lack of timely, clear, and detailed data on
31 Native Hawaiians experiencing challenges in areas such as
32 employment, education, domestic violence, and incarceration,
33 have long hindered the efforts of state agencies, including the
34 Office of Hawaiian Affairs, to address systemic inequities and
35 the ongoing legacies of historical injustices and generational
36 trauma; and

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38 WHEREAS, the recovery and resilience of our Native
39 Hawaiian, Pacific Islander, and overall communities are
40 dependent upon timely, clear, and detailed data that
41 consistently disaggregates Native Hawaiians from other Pacific
42 Islanders in order to better advance the State's public health



1 and social determinants of health goals more effectively and
2 efficiently in the 21st century; now, therefore,

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4 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
5 Thirty-first Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
6 of 2021, the Senate concurring, that the Legislature recognizes
7 the importance of updating our state data governance models in
8 order to facilitate effective and efficient fact-based
9 policymaking in the 21st century; and

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11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature recognizes the
12 importance of detailed and disaggregated data, including data
13 that disaggregates Native Hawaiians from other Pacific
14 Islanders, in pandemic response and recovery efforts for these
15 communities and for the State as a whole; and

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17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature urges the
18 Department of Health, Department of Labor and Industrial
19 Relations, Department of Human Services, Judiciary, and county
20 police departments to compile and share existing and
21 disaggregated data on Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders
22 with the Office of Hawaiian Affairs and the general public in an
23 expeditious manner; and

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25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature urges the same
26 departments to work with the Office of Hawaiian Affairs and the
27 Native Hawaiian & Pacific Islander Hawaii COVID-19 Response,
28 Recovery, and Resilience Team to develop procedures and
29 agreements for improving data collection, processing, retention,
30 governance, and sharing with respect to Native Hawaiians,
31 Pacific Islanders, and other relevant demographics, and to each
32 submit a report on their respective procedures and agreements to
33 the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening
34 of the regular session of 2022; and

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36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Governor is urged to
37 establish a Task Force on 21st Century Data Governance,
38 consisting of the Director of the Office of Planning, the Chief
39 Information Officer of the Office of Enterprise Technology
40 Services, the Chief Executive Officer of the Office of Hawaiian
41 Affairs, or their designees, and other relevant members to be
42 identified by the Task Force, to assess the current data



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1 collection, processing, retention, and sharing procedures,
 2 needs, and challenges across state agencies and to submit a
 3 report of its findings and recommendations to the Legislature no
 4 later than twenty days prior to the convening of the regular
 5 session of 2023; and

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7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 8 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Director
 9 of Health, Director of Labor and Industrial Relations, Director
 10 of Human Services, Chief Justice of the Judiciary, chiefs of
 11 police of the county police departments, Director of the State
 12 Office of Planning, Chief Information Officer of the Office of
 13 Enterprise Technology Services, and Chairperson of the Board of
 14 Trustees of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs.

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OFFERED BY:



By Request

JAN 21 2021

