
HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING A REVIEW OF THE EFFICACY OF THE TECHNOLOGY RESOURCES
OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH.

1 WHEREAS, the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic
2 has exposed structural problems in how the Department of Health
3 collects and shares its data, and that these deficiencies
4 include the lack of sufficient personnel familiar with data
5 science, underpaid and overworked public servants, and outdated
6 systems that are incapable of handling modern-day problems; and
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8 WHEREAS, during the first six months of the pandemic, the
9 Department of Health withheld essential data about the virus
10 from the public and took five months to provide racial
11 breakdowns of COVID-19 deaths in the State and six months to an
12 accurate number of contact tracers investigating cases; and
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14 WHEREAS, at least until its recent change in leadership,
15 the Department of Health had been unwilling to disclose certain
16 data, often citing privacy concerns, and had been unwilling to
17 cooperate with outside organizations in multiple instances; and
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19 WHEREAS, even after the change in leadership, the
20 Department of Health did not publish details about how many new
21 cases arose from people in quarantine and did not provide many
22 details about its contact tracing efforts, such as how many
23 people the department received contact lists from, and of those
24 contacts, how many people were interviewed, and no public
25 records were released on how timely the department's interviews
26 were; now, therefore,
27

28 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
29 Thirty-first Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
30 of 2021, the Auditor is requested to conduct a review of the
31 efficacy of the technology resources of the Department of Health
32 as implemented in the department's COVID-19 contact tracing; and
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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Auditor is requested to
2 make recommendations on how the Department of Health may improve
3 its policies so as to result in more timely and transparent
4 information on COVID-19 tracking and what other resources may be
5 needed to implement those recommendations; and

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7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Auditor is requested to
8 submit a report of its findings and recommendations, including
9 any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than
10 twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of
11 2022; and

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13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
14 Resolution be transmitted to the Auditor and Director of Health.

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OFFERED BY:



JAN 22 2021

