
HOUSE RESOLUTION

URGING DBEDT TO CREATE A BUSINESS RESCUE AND SURVIVAL DIVISION
TO BEGIN SAVING OR RESTRUCTURING BUSINESSES LIKE LOVE'S
BAKERY BEFORE THEY CLOSE.

1 WHEREAS, Love's Bakery is a locally owned business that was
2 founded in 1851 by baker Robert Love who first opened his
3 business on Nuuanu Street; and
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5 WHEREAS, Love's Bakery produces fresh-baked products on
6 Oahu that are shipped to Maui, Kauai, Molokai, and Big Island
7 for deliveries to grocery stores, military bases, restaurants,
8 schools, and hospitals; and
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10 WHEREAS, after 170 years in business, on March 1, 2021,
11 Love's Bakery announced its intent to cease operations and close
12 its Kalihi plant and all retail outlets, and to lay off its 231
13 employees; and
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15 WHEREAS, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Love's Bakery lost
16 more than twenty percent of its revenue in 2020, the business
17 became seriously delinquent in rent, and it was unable to
18 qualify for the second round of the Paycheck Protection Program
19 loan; and
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21 WHEREAS, despite being the dominant commercial bakery in
22 Hawaii and having one thousand and eight hundred customer
23 accounts, Love's Bakery was unable to meet demands due to sales
24 and mainland suppliers being impacted from COVID-19 causing
25 delays in ingredients and replacement parts being received; and
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27 WHEREAS, early intervention to help small businesses in the
28 State can help prevent closures and bankruptcies; and
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30 WHEREAS, it may be many years before businesses will fully
31 understand the impact of COVID-19, and small businesses are
32 particularly facing an existential threat; and



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1 WHEREAS, recent surveys by the Hawaii Chamber of Commerce
2 indicate that upwards of 40% of Hawaii's businesses may not
3 reopen after the lifting of the COVID-19 restrictions; and
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5 WHEREAS, small businesses are an important job creation
6 component of the State's economy and mitigation of the economic
7 damage that they face needs to be quickly addressed; and
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9 WHEREAS, businesses need to adjust their business models to
10 meet present customer needs that have changed as a result of the
11 pandemic; and now, therefore,
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13 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
14 Thirty-first Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
15 of 2021, the Department of Business, Economic Development and
16 Tourism (DBEDT) is urged to form a Business Rescue and Survival
17 Division to assist businesses such as Love's Bakery from
18 closure; and
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20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that DBEDT is encouraged to form a
21 coalition that includes bankers, The Small Business
22 Administration, the Minority Business Development Agency, the UH
23 Pacific Business Development Center, and other local business
24 consultants and experts to develop a strike force for rapid
25 response in small business outreach; and
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27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
28 Resolution be transmitted to DBEDT, the Governor, and the
29 President of the Senate.
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OFFERED BY: 

MAR 12 2021

