

MAR 11 2022

---

# SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE HAWAII COUNCIL FOR THE HUMANITIES, STATE  
FOUNDATION ON CULTURE AND THE ARTS, AND THE HAWAII STATE  
PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM TO COLLABORATE FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT  
OF A HAWAII STATE POET LAUREATE PROGRAM.

1           WHEREAS, Hawaii has a rich and diverse culture that melds  
2 the customs, art, history, traditions, and music of Native  
3 Hawaiians and the many peoples that comprise the community that  
4 is Hawaii; and

5  
6           WHEREAS, this unique culture is expressed in the mele, oli,  
7 and mo'olelo of the Hawaiian people, and the literature, music,  
8 and traditions of the various peoples that have settled in  
9 Hawaii; and

10  
11           WHEREAS, literature and poetry are a way to blend the  
12 multicultural voices, languages, and traditions in a manner that  
13 promotes dialogue, pride, and understanding within our diverse  
14 communities with the world; and

15  
16           WHEREAS, storytelling and literature strengthen civic  
17 responsibility and civic engagement through promoting deep  
18 thinking, increased empathy and understanding, and stronger  
19 connections to ourselves and each other; and

20  
21           WHEREAS, the State of Hawaii is committed to the  
22 preservation and advancement of culture, the arts, history, and  
23 the humanities, especially literature and music; and

24  
25           WHEREAS, the United States of America provides for the  
26 periodic appointment of a poet laureate by the Library of  
27 Congress; and

28  
29           WHEREAS, the Hawaii Council for the Humanities, State  
30 Foundation on Culture and the Arts, and Hawaii State Public  
31 Library System have the qualifications and expertise to



1 establish a Hawaii State Poet Laureate Program to nurture and  
2 connect the various cultures in Hawaii; now, therefore,

3  
4 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-first  
5 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2022, the  
6 House of Representatives concurring, that the Hawaii Council for  
7 the Humanities, State Foundation on Culture and the Arts, and  
8 Hawaii State Public Library System are requested to collaborate  
9 for the purpose of establishing a Hawaii State Poet Laureate  
10 Program, which may include:

- 11 (1) The periodic appointment of a Hawaii poet laureate;
- 12 (2) The promotion of reading, writing, and appreciation of
- 13 poetry;
- 14 (3) Literary, cultural, and poetry workshops for students,
- 15 communities, and the people of Hawaii; and
- 16 (4) The gathering of writers, poets, storytellers,
- 17 musicians, and others representing the multi-ethnic
- 18 cultures of Hawaii to share their experiences and
- 19 creative works; and
- 20
- 21
- 22
- 23
- 24

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the State Foundation on Culture  
26 and the Arts is requested to submit a report of the  
27 collaborative efforts initiated for the establishment of a  
28 Hawaii State Poet Laureate Program, its findings,  
29 recommendations, implementation plan, and any proposed  
30 legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior  
31 to the convening of the Regular Session of 2023; and

32  
33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
34 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Executive Director  
35 of the Hawaii Council for the Humanities, Executive Director of  
36 the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts, and State  
37 Librarian.

38  
39  
40 OFFERED BY:

