

MAR 10 2023

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY TO CONVENE A WORKING GROUP TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS ON HOW TO IMPROVE SECURITY AT THE STATE CAPITOL.

1 WHEREAS, terrorism, violence, and threats of violence in
2 public forums have become increasingly common; and

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4 WHEREAS, after the 2020 election, protestors forced their
5 way into the state capitols of Idaho, Michigan, and Oregon, and
6 the United States Capitol was breached by violent protesters on
7 January 6, 2021; and

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9 WHEREAS, recent United States Supreme Court rulings have
10 made it easier for individuals to carry firearms in the State;
11 and

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13 WHEREAS, the Judiciary, co-equal to the legislative and
14 executive branches of government, welcomes members of the public
15 to come to court and observe firsthand the administration of
16 justice - but also requires all visitors to first pass through
17 metal detectors and have their belongings undergo x-ray baggage
18 screening; and

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20 WHEREAS, in contrast, the Hawaii State Capitol building is
21 known as one of the most publicly accessible capitol buildings
22 in the nation, but is also one of the most vulnerable due to a
23 lack of similar security measures; and

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25 WHEREAS, the State must do more to ensure that citizen
26 engagement does not come at the expense of public safety; now,
27 therefore,

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29 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-second
30 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2023, the
31 House of Representatives concurring, that the Department of
32 Public Safety, Sheriff Division, is requested to convene a



1 working group to make recommendations on how to improve security
2 at the State Capitol while also maintaining a sense of openness
3 to the public to encourage civic engagement; and
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5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the composition of the working
6 group is requested to be as follows:
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- 8 (1) Two appointees of the Speaker of the House of
9 Representatives;
- 10 (2) Two appointees of the President of the Senate;
- 11 (3) One appointee of the Governor;
- 12 (4) One appointee of the Minority Leader of the House of
13 Representatives; and
- 14 (5) One appointee of the Minority Leader of the Senate;
15 and
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18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested
19 to meet and make recommendations on how to:
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- 21 (1) Improve security at the State Capitol generally; and
- 22 (2) Improve security at the State Capitol during major
23 events such as the State of the State, election
24 nights, and opening day of the regular session; and
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27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
28 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, President
29 of the Senate, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Minority
30 Leader of the Senate, Minority Leader of the House of
31 Representatives, and Director of Public Safety.
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OFFERED BY: _____

