
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO DEMOGRAPHIC DATA.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that Asian Americans,
2 Native Hawaiians, and other Pacific Islanders represent 46.5 per
3 cent of the State's population. While Asian Americans, Native
4 Hawaiians, and other Pacific Islanders are often misrepresented
5 as a homogeneous group, they are an extremely diverse group,
6 with ethnicities from over thirty different countries. Asian
7 American, Native Hawaiian, and other Pacific Islander
8 communities in this State experience diverse social,
9 educational, health, and economic differences that are unique to
10 their respective communities.

11 The legislature also finds that, due to this diversity, the
12 United States Office of Management and Budget's Statistical
13 Policy Directive No. 15, entitled "Race and Ethnic Standards for
14 Federal Statistics and Administrative Reporting," separated the
15 "Asian and Pacific Islander" category into two distinct and
16 separate categories, now called "Asians" and "Native Hawaiians
17 and Other Pacific Islanders," and these two distinct categories



1 were used in the 2020 United States Census. The United States
2 Census Bureau currently reports data for more than twenty
3 different ethnicities within these two categories.

4 Despite the federal government's current policy and
5 practice of disaggregating data related to Asian Americans,
6 Native Hawaiians, and other Pacific Islanders, Hawaii's state
7 agencies do not all keep demographic data in a standard or
8 uniform manner that comports with these prevailing federal
9 standards. Moreover, most state agencies do not make collected
10 demographic data accessible to the public so that regional and
11 local governments, elected officials, decision makers, and other
12 stakeholders can use the information to strategically target
13 programs for those most in need.

14 Given the diversity of languages and cultures, separating
15 data for Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and other Pacific
16 Islander ethnic groups is imperative and making this data
17 publicly accessible is critical for enhancing understanding of
18 the needs and experiences of these different communities.
19 Disaggregating race data for collection, analysis and
20 evaluation, access and dissemination can aid in shaping programs



1 and policies to advance more equitable outcomes for all
2 communities in the State.

3 In particular, the State has unique trust responsibilities
4 with respect to Native Hawaiians, which are administered by a
5 variety of state agencies, including but not limited to the
6 office of Hawaiian affairs. The uniform collection and sharing
7 of data specific to Native Hawaiians is critical to the proper
8 administration of the State's trust responsibilities and
9 improving the conditions of Native Hawaiians through other
10 similar initiatives.

11 The purpose of this Act is to:

- 12 (1) Ascertain the current status of demographic data
13 collection and reporting;
- 14 (2) Increase and improve the collection and reporting of
15 demographic data for Asian Americans, Native
16 Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders; and
- 17 (3) Facilitate timely reporting of demographic data to the
18 public.

19 SECTION 2. Chapter 27, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended
20 by adding a new section to part I to be appropriately designated
21 and to read as follows:



1 "§27- Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and other Pacific
2 Islander groups; collection of demographic data. (a) Any state
3 agency, board, or commission that directly or by contract
4 collects demographic data as to ancestry or ethnic origin shall
5 use separate collection categories and tabulations for the
6 following:

7 (1) Native Hawaiian;
8 (2) Each major Asian group, including but not limited to
9 Chinese, Filipino, Japanese, and Korean; and
10 (3) Each other major Pacific Islander group, including but
11 not limited to Chamorro, Samoan, Tongan, Fijian,
12 Tahitian, Marshallese, Chuukese, Kosraean, Pohnpeian,
13 Yapese, Palauan, Nauruan, and Kiribati.

14 (b) The data collected pursuant to the collection
15 categories and tabulations described in subsection (a) shall be
16 included in every demographic report on ancestry or ethnic
17 origins by a state agency, board, or commission published or
18 released on or after July 1, 2023, unless the report is governed
19 by federal standards requiring the use of other categories and
20 tabulations, then federal standards shall govern. The data
21 shall be made available to the public in accordance with state



1 and federal law, except for personal identifying information,
2 which shall be deemed confidential.

3 (c) The department of health, department of labor and
4 industrial relations, department of human services, and county
5 police departments shall compile and share existing
6 disaggregated data pursuant to this section on Native Hawaiians,
7 Pacific Islanders, and Asians with the office of Hawaiian
8 affairs, the office of health equity, and the general public,
9 subject to all applicable state and federal laws regarding
10 personal identifying information, by posting the data on the
11 website of the agency on or before July 1, 2024, and annually
12 thereafter.

13 (d) To the extent that federal law requires the use of
14 categories and tabulations that are more specific than those
15 contained in subsection (a), the more specific federal standards
16 shall govern.

17 (e) Nothing herein shall limit the ability of any state
18 agency, board, or commission from using categories and
19 tabulations that are more specific than those described in
20 subsection (a) or any other applicable state or federal law."



1 SECTION 3. (a) There is established a task force on
2 twenty-first century data governance.

3 (b) The task force shall assess the current data
4 collection, processing, retention, and sharing procedures;
5 needs; and challenges across state agencies.

6 (c) The members of the task force shall include:

7 (1) The director of the office of planning and sustainable
8 development, or their designee;

9 (2) The chief information officer of the office of
10 enterprise technology services or their designee;

11 (3) The chief executive officer of the office of Hawaiian
12 affairs or their designee;

13 (4) The director of the office of health equity or their
14 designee; and

15 (5) Other relevant members to be identified by the task
16 force.

17 (d) The task force shall submit a report of its findings
18 and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the
19 legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
20 the regular session of regular session of 2024.

21 SECTION 4. New statutory material is underscored.



1 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2112.



Report Title:

Department of Health; Department of Labor and Industrial Relations; Department of Human Services; County Police Departments; Demographic Data; State Agencies; Publication; Ethnicities; Task Force

Description:

Requires state agencies to disaggregate data consistent with federal standards and requires publication of the data. Establishes a task force to assess current data collection, processing, retention, and sharing procedures; needs; and challenges. Requires a report to the Legislature. Effective 7/1/2112. (SD1)

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