

MAR 10 2023

---

---

# SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE OFFICE OF PLANNING AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT,  
AMONG OTHER EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS, TO IMPLEMENT THE UNITED  
NATIONS COMMITTEE ON THE ELIMINATION OF RACIAL  
DISCRIMINATION'S RECOMMENDATIONS.

1           WHEREAS, the United Nations (UN) created the International  
2 Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial  
3 Discrimination, which was adopted in December 1965 by UN General  
4 Assembly 2016 and entered into force in January 1969; and  
5

6           WHEREAS, the UN Charter is centered on the principles of  
7 dignity and equality inherent in all human beings and all  
8 citizens of the world, and committed to promoting and  
9 encouraging universal respect for and observance of human rights  
10 and fundamental freedoms for all; and  
11

12           WHEREAS, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights  
13 proclaims that all human beings are born free and equal in  
14 dignity and rights, and everyone is entitled to all the rights  
15 and freedoms set out therein, without distinction of any kind,  
16 in particular as to race, color, or national origin; and  
17

18           WHEREAS, the UN has condemned colonization in all its forms  
19 and all practices of apartheid, segregation, and discrimination,  
20 as enshrined in multiple declarations from the Declaration on  
21 the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples  
22 and the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples; and  
23

24           WHEREAS, the term "racial discrimination" means any  
25 distinction, exclusion, restriction, or preference based on  
26 race, color, descent, or national or ethnic origin that has the  
27 purpose or effect of nullifying or impairing the recognition,  
28 enjoyment, or exercise, on an equal footing, of human rights and  
29 fundamental freedoms in the political, economic, social,  
30 cultural, or any other field of public life; and  
31

32           WHEREAS, states should adopt immediate and effective  
33 measures, particularly in the fields of teaching, education,  
34 culture, and information, with a view to combating prejudices



1 that lead to racial discrimination and to promoting  
2 understanding, tolerance, and friendship among nations and  
3 racial or ethnical groups, as well as to propagating the  
4 purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,  
5 the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and the United  
6 Nations Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial  
7 Discrimination; and

8  
9 WHEREAS, the United States appeared at the UN Committee on  
10 the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD) 107th Session on  
11 August 11 and 12 at Palais des Nations in Geneva, Switzerland;  
12 and

13  
14 WHEREAS, the eighteen expert members of the UN CERD adopted  
15 dozens of recommendations based on the six-hour interaction  
16 between the United States government and CERD rooted on  
17 discussions with directly impacted peoples and civil society  
18 representatives; and

19  
20 WHEREAS, the CERD members selected three specific  
21 recommendations around human rights for the United States  
22 government to report on at the 110th Session, which were  
23 centered around indigenous peoples, migrations, and reproductive  
24 rights; and

25  
26 WHEREAS, the realization of the recommendations will  
27 improve and produce a positive impact in Hawai'i and the United  
28 States; and

29  
30 WHEREAS, Hawai'i should update and undertake new creative  
31 curriculum around human rights and justice; and

32  
33 WHEREAS, Hawai'i is an island state with a multicultural  
34 population from around the world that recognizes the ancestral  
35 wisdom of cherishing the natural environment; and

36  
37 WHEREAS, Hawai'i was considered as a potential host site for  
38 the UN headquarters to serve as a global diplomatic hub; and

39  
40 WHEREAS, Hawai'i recently hosted its 18th annual Human  
41 Rights Day to illuminate important and imminent issues at the  
42 international and island levels and review all recommendations



1 ranging from the UN human rights mechanisms and global  
2 environmental and climate agreements; and

3  
4 WHEREAS, Hawai'i was designed as America's first human  
5 rights state by House Resolution No. 194, which was adopted by  
6 the House of Representatives of the Twenty-seventh Legislature  
7 of the State of Hawai'i, Regular Session of 2014; and

8  
9 WHEREAS, Hawai'i was the first state to conduct a voluntary  
10 local review at the UN and will conduct its historic second  
11 voluntary local review at the UN's High-level Political Forum on  
12 Sustainable Development and Sustainable Development Goals Summit  
13 at UN headquarters in New York and share its local strategies  
14 regarding the UN's 17 Sustainable Development Goals through the  
15 Aloha+ Challenge; and

16  
17 WHEREAS, civil society, nonprofit associations, and non-  
18 governmental organizations can generate solutions and share  
19 strategies providing concise, complete contributions to realize  
20 human rights in Hawai'i and Moananuiākea; and

21  
22 WHEREAS, Hawai'i maintains momentum in cultivating a culture  
23 of human rights, rule of law, sustainable development, and  
24 global justice, partnering with city and county councils, as  
25 well as leadership from state agencies and elected public  
26 officials, to maintain the human rights movement in Hawai'i; now,  
27 therefore,

28  
29 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-second  
30 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2023,  
31 that the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development, among  
32 other executive departments, is requested to implement the  
33 recommendations of the United Nations Committee on the  
34 Elimination of Racial Discrimination; and

35  
36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
37 Resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States;  
38 Vice President of the United States; Speaker of the United  
39 States House of Representatives; Majority Leader of the United  
40 States Senate; United States Department of State, Social  
41 Presidential Envoy for Climate; United Nations' Secretary



# S.R. NO. 124

1 General; United Nations' High Commissioner for Human Rights;  
2 Hawai'i's congressional delegation; Governor; and Director of the  
3 Office of Planning and Sustainable Development.

4  
5  
6

OFFERED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

