
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A WORKING GROUP TO STUDY THE
FEASIBILITY OF CREATING A HAWAII CULTURAL TRUST TO PRESERVE
AND PROMOTE HAWAII'S CULTURAL RESOURCES.

1 WHEREAS, Hawaii is home to a rich cultural heritage that
2 includes indigenous traditions, historical landmarks, diverse
3 artistic expressions, and significant cultural institutions; and
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5 WHEREAS, sustained investment in cultural preservation,
6 heritage, and the arts supports economic growth, education,
7 tourism, and the overall well-being of the people of Hawaii; and
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9 WHEREAS, various states have successful cultural trusts
10 that could be used as models for sustainable funding of cultural
11 organizations by leveraging donations and tax incentives to
12 support arts and heritage programs; and
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14 WHEREAS, establishing a Hawaii Cultural Trust could enhance
15 financial sustainability for cultural institutions and the arts
16 to provide long-term support for the preservation and promotion
17 of Hawaii's cultural resources; now, therefore,
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19 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
20 Thirty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
21 of 2025, the Senate concurring, that a working group is
22 requested to be established to study the feasibility of creating
23 a Hawaii Cultural Trust to preserve and promote Hawaii's
24 cultural resources; and
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26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested
27 to consist of the following members:
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- 29 (1) The chairperson of the House of Representatives
30 standing committee with primary jurisdiction over



1 culture and the arts, who is requested to serve as co-
2 chairperson of the working group for the purposes of
3 convening the working group;
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5 (2) The chairperson of the Senate standing committee with
6 primary jurisdiction over culture and the arts, who is
7 requested to serve as co-chairperson of the working
8 group for the purposes of convening the working group;
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10 (3) The Director of Business, Economic Development, and
11 Tourism, or the Director's designee;
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13 (4) The Director of the State Foundation on Culture and
14 the Arts, or the Director's designee;
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16 (5) The Chief Executive Officer of the Office of Hawaiian
17 Affairs, or the Chief Executive Officer's designee;
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19 (6) The Interim President and Chief Executive Officer of
20 the Hawaii Tourism Authority, or the Interim President
21 and Chief Executive Officer's designee; and
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23 (7) The chairperson of the Hawai'i State LGBTQ+ Commission,
24 or the chairperson's designee; and
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26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested
27 to invite a representative or the representative's designee from
28 the following organizations to participate in the working group:
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30 (1) The Hawai'i Council for the Humanities;
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32 (2) A Native Hawaiian cultural organization;
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34 (3) A nonprofit cultural or arts organization;
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36 (4) A university or research institution specializing in
37 cultural policy or arts administration; and
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39 (5) Any other members as deemed necessary by the working
40 group to ensure a comprehensive study; and
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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested
2 to examine the potential structure, funding mechanisms, and
3 governance models for a cultural trust in Hawaii, including but
4 not limited to:

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- 6 (1) Identifying potential sources of funding, including
7 public, private, and philanthropic contributions;
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- 9 (2) Exploring tax incentives and other fiscal strategies
10 to encourage donations;
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- 12 (3) Evaluating the impact such a trust could have on
13 Hawaii's cultural institutions, the arts, and
14 communities;
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- 16 (4) Assessing any administrative and legal frameworks
17 necessary to implement and maintain a cultural trust;
18 and
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- 20 (5) Drafting recommendations for legislative action,
21 including proposed legislation establishing the Hawaii
22 Cultural Trust; and
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24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested
25 to submit a report of its findings and recommendations,
26 including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later
27 than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session
28 of 2026; and
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30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
31 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor; Director
32 of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Chairperson of
33 the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts; Chief Executive
34 Officer of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Interim President and
35 Chief Executive Officer of the Hawaii Tourism Authority;
36 Chairperson of the Hawai'i State LGBTQ+ Commission; and Executive
37 Director of the Hawai'i Council for the Humanities.

