
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE HAWAII STATE LGBTQ+ COMMISSION AND HAWAII STATE COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN TO COLLABORATE AND CONDUCT A COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF THE HAWAII REVISED STATUTES AND RECOMMEND AMENDMENTS TO INCORPORATE GENDER-NEUTRAL TERMINOLOGY.

1 WHEREAS, the State of Hawaii is committed to fostering
2 inclusivity, equality, and respect for all individuals,
3 regardless of gender identity or expression; and
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5 WHEREAS, many existing statutes within the Hawaii Revised
6 Statutes contain binary, gendered language that may not reflect
7 the diverse identities of Hawaii's residents; and
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9 WHEREAS, the use of gender-neutral language in legislation
10 promotes inclusivity and ensures that all individuals are
11 equally recognized and protected under state law; and
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13 WHEREAS, in 2013, the Hawaii State Legislature passed
14 marriage equality, ensuring that same-sex couples have the right
15 to marry, and the rest of the Hawaii Revised Statutes should
16 reflect this legal recognition when addressing married couples;
17 and
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19 WHEREAS, in 2019, the Hawaii State Legislature expanded
20 gender markers from the false narrative of the gender binary
21 that utilizes "F" for female and "M" for male on state
22 identification cards and driver's licenses; and
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24 WHEREAS, now, forms of state identification also include
25 the marker "X" for those who do not identify within the gender
26 binary; and
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1 WHEREAS, other jurisdictions have undertaken similar
2 efforts to modernize statutory language to be more inclusive,
3 and Hawaii should also ensure that state laws reflect the values
4 of respect and aloha for all; now, therefore,
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6 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
7 Thirty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
8 of 2025, the Senate concurring, that the Hawaii State LGBTQ+
9 Commission and Hawaii State Commission on the Status of Women
10 are requested to collaborate and conduct a comprehensive review
11 of the Hawaii Revised Statutes and recommend amendments to
12 incorporate gender-neutral terminology; and
13

14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hawaii State LGBTQ+
15 Commission and Hawaii State Commission on the Status of Women
16 are requested to:
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- 18 (1) Draft recommended legislation to incorporate gender-
19 neutral terminology in the Hawaii Revised Statutes;
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- 21 (2) Draft a recommendation for bill review to ensure
22 future legislation incorporates gender-neutral
23 terminology; and
24
- 25 (3) Submit a report of their findings and recommendations,
26 including proposed legislation containing the
27 suggested statutory amendments, to the Legislature no
28 later than December 31, 2026; and
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30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of the Attorney
31 General is requested to assist the Hawaii State LGBTQ+
32 Commission and Hawaii State Commission on the Status of Women in
33 fulfilling these endeavors; and
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35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hawaii State LGBTQ+
36 Commission and Hawaii State Commission on the Status of Women
37 are requested to engage with civil rights experts that
38 specialize in gender identity and non-binary issues, such as the
39 Lambda Law Student Association, in fulfilling these endeavors;
40 and
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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
2 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor;
3 Chairperson of the Hawaii State Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual,
4 Transgender, Queer Plus Commission; Chairperson of the Hawaii
5 State Commission on the Status of Women; and Chair of the Lambda
6 Law Student Association at the University of Hawaii at Manoa
7 William S. Richardson School of Law.

