
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY TO CONSULT WITH THE
STATE CAPITOL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE AND TO DEVELOP AND
IMPLEMENT A MASTER SECURITY PLAN THAT WILL INCREASE SAFETY
AND SECURITY IN THE STATE CAPITOL BUILDING THROUGH THE USE
OF METAL DETECTORS, X-RAY SCANS OF BAGGAGE, AND OTHER
PRUDENT MEASURES.

1 WHEREAS, terrorism, violence, and threats of violence in
2 public forums have become increasingly common and our state
3 government must do more to ensure that citizen engagement does
4 not come at the expense of public safety; and
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6 WHEREAS, the United States Department of Homeland
7 Security's Interagency Security Committee, whose mission is to
8 develop security standards and best practices for nonmilitary
9 federal facilities, has issued guidance detailing "best
10 practices" and recommendations for the protection of federal
11 facilities, employees, contractors, and visitors; and
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13 WHEREAS, these recommendations include using security
14 countermeasures such as metal detectors and x-ray machines at
15 pedestrian and public entrances of federal buildings; and
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17 WHEREAS, according to the National Conference of State
18 Legislatures, twenty-eight states currently utilize walk-through
19 metal detectors at the public entrances of their capitol
20 buildings; and
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22 WHEREAS, in Hawaii, the Judiciary, co-equal to the
23 legislative and executive branches of government, welcomes
24 members of the public to come to court and observe firsthand the
25 administration of justice - but nevertheless requires all
26 visitors to first pass through metal detectors and have their
27 personal belongings undergo x-ray baggage screening; and



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2 WHEREAS, in contrast, the Hawaii State Capitol building is
3 known as one of the most publicly accessible capitol buildings
4 in the nation, but is also one of the most vulnerable -
5 precisely because there are no provisions for mandatory security
6 screening of visitors; and
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8 WHEREAS, the value of open access to "the people's house"
9 must be balanced with the need to ensure the physical safety and
10 well-being of the visiting public, Capitol staff, Legislators,
11 and other building occupants; and
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13 WHEREAS, it is within the purview of the State Capitol
14 Management Committee, established pursuant to Act 97, Session
15 Laws of Hawaii 2014 and now codified in section 6E-34.5, Hawaii
16 Revised Statutes, to develop and implement a master security
17 plan that will increase safety and security in the State Capitol
18 building through the use of metal detectors, x-ray scans of
19 baggage, and other prudent measures; and
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21 WHEREAS, the development and implementation of a security
22 plan is consistent with the committee's authority to oversee and
23 manage the State Capitol and approve all policies and procedures
24 relating to the Capitol's general operation and management and
25 its grounds and facilities, including general security policies;
26 and
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28 WHEREAS, the Department of Public Safety possesses the
29 requisite security expertise to develop and implement security
30 protocols for the State Capitol since it is already responsible
31 for law enforcement at the State Capitol; now, therefore,
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33 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
34 Twenty-eighth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
35 Session of 2016, the Senate concurring, that the Department of
36 Public Safety is requested to consult with the Department of
37 Accounting and General Services and the State Capitol Management
38 Committee and to develop a master security plan that will
39 increase safety and security in the State Capitol building
40 through the use of metal detectors, x-ray scans of baggage, and
41 other prudent measures; and
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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Public Safety
2 is requested to provide a report on the status of the security
3 plan, including any proposed legislation, to the State Capitol
4 Management Committee and the Legislature no later than twenty
5 days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2017; and

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7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
8 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, the
9 Director of Public Safety, the Comptroller, and the Chairperson
10 of the State Capitol Management Committee.
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OFFERED BY:

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MAR 11 2016

