A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE HAWAII STATE LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL, TRANSGENDER, QUEER, PLUS COMMISSION.

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

1 SECTION 1. The Hawaii Revised Statutes is amended by 2 adding a new chapter to title 20 to be appropriately designated 3 and to read as follows: 4 "CHAPTER HAWAII STATE LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL, TRANSGENDER, QUEER, PLUS 5 6 COMMISSION 7 -1 Findings and purpose. The legislature finds that 8 there is a need to establish a body to improve the State's 9 interface with members of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, 10 transgender, queer, plus community, identify the short- and 11 long-range needs of its members, and ensure that there is an 12 effective means of researching, planning, and advocating for the 13 equity of this population in all aspects of state government. 14 The legislature further finds that establishing a program to 15 enable a better understanding of the risks and challenges, 16 including suicide, bullying, and ostracization, that the

- 1 lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, plus community face
- 2 will support better prevention and intervention strategies to
- 3 help this population. Accordingly, it is the purpose of this
- 4 chapter to provide for a statewide program, on a permanent and
- 5 continuing basis, on the status of lesbian, gay, bisexual,
- 6 transgender, queer, plus people in Hawaii.
- 7 S -2 Definitions. For purposes of this chapter:
- 8 "Commission" means the Hawaii state lesbian, gay, bisexual,
- 9 transgender, queer, plus commission.
- 10 "County committee" means each committee on the status of
- 11 lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, plus affairs as
- 12 appointed by the mayor of each respective county in accordance
- 13 with this chapter.
- "Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, plus" includes
- 15 any individual who identifies as a member of the lesbian, gay,
- 16 bisexual, transgender, or queer community, or any individual who
- 17 identifies as a member of a sexual or gender minority, including
- 18 intersex, asexual, or pansexual individuals.
- 19 § -3 Hawaii state lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender,
- 20 queer, plus commission; membership. (a) There is created the
- 21 Hawaii state lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, plus

1	commissio	n for	a special purpose within the department of human					
2	services	for a	dministrative purposes.					
3	(b)	The	commission shall consist of the following:					
4	(1)	Ex o	fficio, nonvoting members or their designees,					
5		including the:						
6		(A)	Superintendent of education;					
7		(B)	President of the university of Hawaii system;					
8		(C)	Director of labor and industrial relations;					
9		(D)	Director of human resources development;					
10		(E)	Director of human services; and					
11		(F)	Director of health;					
12	(2)	Eigh	t voting members who shall be appointed by the					
13		gove	rnor in accordance with section 26-34; provided					
14		that	of these eight members:					
15		(A)	One member shall be from the county of Hawaii;					
16		(B)	One member shall be from the county of Kauai;					
17		(C)	One member shall be from the county of Maui;					
18		(D)	Four members shall be from the city and county of					
19			Honolulu; and					
20		(E)	One voting member, who shall be identified by the					
21			Hawaii sexual and gender minority work group.					

- 1 (c) The governor shall appoint members of the commission
- 2 on the basis of their interests and knowledge in, and their
- 3 ability to make contributions to, the solution of problems
- 4 relating to the status of the lesbian, gay, bisexual,
- 5 transgender, queer, plus community.
- 6 (d) A chairperson of the commission shall be elected
- 7 annually from the seven appointed members of the commission. A
- 8 quorum to do business or to validate any act of the commission
- 9 shall consist of a majority of the seven appointed members of
- 10 the commission.
- 11 § -4 Compensation. The members of the commission shall
- 12 serve without compensation but shall be reimbursed for expenses,
- 13 including travel expenses, necessary for the performance of
- 14 their duties.
- 15 § -5 Executive director. The commission shall appoint
- 16 an executive director for the proper administration and
- 17 enforcement of this chapter. The executive director shall be
- 18 appointed without regard to chapter 76.
- 19 § -6 Powers and duties of the commission. The
- 20 commission shall:

1	(1)	Act as a central clearinghouse and coordinating body
2		for governmental and nongovernmental activities and
3		information relating to the status of the lesbian,
4		gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, plus community in
5		the State;
6	(2)	Create public awareness and understanding of the
7		responsibilities, needs, potentials, and contributions
8		of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer,
9		plus community and their roles in the changing
10		society;
11	(3)	Recommend legislative and administrative action on
12		equal treatment and opportunities for members of the
13		lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, plus
14		community;
15	(4)	Encourage a long-range program of education of members
16		of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer,
17		plus community about their political rights and
18		responsibilities, particularly with respect to their
19		voting duties;
20	(5)	Maintain contacts with appropriate federal, state,

local, and international agencies concerned with the

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1		status of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender,
2		queer, plus community;
3	(6)	Cooperate and collaborate with national groups on the
4		status of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender,
5		queer, plus community and arrange for participation by
6		representatives of the State in White House
7		conferences and other national conferences;
8	(7)	Administer funds allocated for the commission's work,
9		including accepting, disbursing, and allocating funds
10		that may become available from other governmental and
11		private sources; provided that all funds shall be
12		disbursed or allocated in compliance with any specific
13		designation stated by the donor; provided further that
14		in the absence of any specific designation, the funds
15		shall be disbursed or allocated to projects related to
16		any of the purposes of this chapter; and
17	(8)	Submit to the governor and legislature an annual
18		report with recommendations.
19	S	-7 County committees on lesbian, gay, bisexual,
20	transgend	er, queer, plus affairs; membership; organization. (a)

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1	The may	yor of	each	county	shall	appoint	a	county	committee.	Each
2	county	commit	ttee s	shall be	e char	ged with:	:			

- The duty and responsibility of developing information
 as the commission requires or as the county committee
 deems advisable concerning the status of the members
 of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer,
 plus community within the respective counties; and
- 8 (2) Any other appropriate duties and responsibilities as9 may be deemed necessary by the respective counties.
- 10 (b) The county committees shall submit to the commission
 11 plans and proposals affecting the status of members of the
 12 lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, plus community in
 13 the respective counties.
- (c) Each county committee shall endeavor to secure the
 widest possible citizen participation in its efforts and, for
 this purpose, may use existing public or private organizations.
 Each county committee shall include the county attorney or
 corporation counsel and the county representative of the
- 19 commission as ex officio members. The other members shall be
 20 selected on the basis of their interest and knowledge in, and
- 21 their ability to make contributions to, the solution of problems

- 1 relating to the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, plus
- 2 community within the respective county and their knowledge of
- 3 local conditions. The chairperson of each county committee
- 4 shall be elected annually from the nongovernmental members of
- 5 the committee. The terms of office of each member shall be four
- 6 years. Each county committee shall meet at least four times a
- 7 year. The members of the county committees shall receive no
- 8 compensation for their services. The respective county
- 9 legislative bodies are authorized to make appropriations to meet
- 10 the necessary expenses of their respective committees."
- 11 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
- 12 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
- 13 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2020-2021 for
- 14 the Hawaii state lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer,
- 15 plus commission and to carry out the purposes of this Act.
- 16 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
- 17 human services for the purposes of this Act.
- 18 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on December 31,
- **19** 2059.

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Report Title:

Hawaii State Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Plus Commission; Appropriation

Description:

Establishes the Hawaii State Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Plus Commission. Appropriates funds. Effective 12/31/2059. (HD1)

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