
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, IN COLLABORATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, HAWAII EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY, AND OTHER STATE AGENCIES AND STAKEHOLDERS, TO REVIEW THE STATE'S SUPPLY CHAIN CHALLENGES THAT AROSE AT THE BEGINNING OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND DURING OTHER NATURAL DISASTERS.

1 WHEREAS, the impact of the SARS-CoV-2 virus and resulting
2 coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) has had devastating impacts
3 on the world, nation, and State; and
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5 WHEREAS, Hawaii has been heavily impacted by the COVID-19
6 pandemic because of the severe decline in tourism and adoption
7 of travel and stay-at-home restrictions, resulting in a sharp
8 increase in the State's working population filing for
9 unemployment and loss of income and purchasing power for many
10 residents; and
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12 WHEREAS, during the COVID-19 pandemic, the State's supply
13 chain has also been disrupted, which is of extreme concern since
14 the State imports nearly ninety percent of its food supply; and
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16 WHEREAS, many local stores often sold out of basic
17 supplies, such as bottled water, nonperishable food, and toilet
18 paper; and
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20 WHEREAS, the State's supply chain challenges due to the
21 COVID-19 pandemic are also similar to those experienced during
22 natural disaster events; and
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24 WHEREAS, Hawaii is vulnerable to natural disasters and
25 weather extremes ranging from floods, hurricanes, tidal waves,
26 tsunamis, high surf, earthquakes, mudslides, and volcanic
27 activity; and



1 WHEREAS, responses to natural disasters require sound
2 decision-making and planning, including a reliable supply chain,
3 to ensure public safety and save lives; and
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5 WHEREAS, it is necessary to review the State's supply chain
6 in the wake of challenges that arose during the early days of
7 the COVID-19 pandemic and other natural disaster events to
8 ensure that local residents and visitors do not suffer from
9 shortages of essential goods; now, therefore,
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11 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
12 Thirty-first Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
13 of 2021, the Senate concurring, that the Department of
14 Transportation, in collaboration with the Department of Health,
15 Hawaii Emergency Management Agency, and other state agencies and
16 stakeholders, is requested to review the State's supply chain
17 challenges that arose at the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic
18 and during other natural disaster events; and
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20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in its review, the Department
21 of Transportation is requested to investigate how
22 vulnerabilities across the supply chain may have contributed to
23 delays in moving supplies during some of the most difficult
24 times of the COVID-19 pandemic, including a shortfall of
25 personal protective equipment for medical workers and first
26 responders and essential supplies across the commercial sector;
27 and
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29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of
30 Transportation is requested to submit a report on its findings
31 and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the
32 Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
33 the Regular Session of 2021; and
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35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
36 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of
37 Transportation, Director of Health, and Adjutant General.
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OFFERED BY: 

MAR 12 2021

