
HOUSE RESOLUTION

RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF 21ST CENTURY DATA GOVERNANCE FOR
FACT-BASED POLICYMAKING.

1 WHEREAS, the World Health Organization identifies health as
2 a fundamental human right; and
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4 WHEREAS, Native Hawaiians are the native people of Hawaii
5 and maintained a once thriving population, estimated to be over
6 one million inhabitants, whose land and resource management
7 practices allowed them to live harmoniously with their
8 environment; and
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10 WHEREAS, the arrival of westerners caused a shift in this
11 balance, resulting in the erosion and eventual loss of Native
12 Hawaiian governance over Hawaii's land and resources; and
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14 WHEREAS, a series of epidemics from foreign diseases
15 contributed significantly to the historic decline of the Native
16 Hawaiian population and the generational trauma that Native
17 Hawaiians are still healing from today; and
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19 WHEREAS, the decimation of the Native Hawaiian population,
20 the dispossession and disconnection of Native Hawaiians from
21 their lands, and the overthrow of the Hawaiian Kingdom resulted
22 in further historical injustices and systemic inequities that
23 continue to impact the Native Hawaiian community; and
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25 WHEREAS, in recognition of the historical injustices and
26 ongoing inequities faced by Native Hawaiians, the Hawaii State
27 Constitution and Hawaii Revised Statutes established the Office
28 of Hawaiian Affairs as an agency dedicated to bettering the
29 conditions of Native Hawaiians; and
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31 WHEREAS, the Native Hawaiian Health Care Improvement Act
32 further acknowledges the poor health status of the Native



1 Hawaiian population, and established Papa Ola Lōkahi and the
2 Native Hawaiian Health Care System; and

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4 WHEREAS, section 226-20, Hawaii Revised Statutes,
5 acknowledges the social determinants of health that influence
6 Native Hawaiian health and expresses the State's commitment to
7 reducing these health disparities for Native Hawaiians and other
8 groups through a social determinants of health approach; and

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10 WHEREAS, to best accomplish the Hawaii State Planning Act's
11 objective of the "elimination of health disparities by
12 identifying and addressing social determinants of health,"
13 timely, clear, and detailed information on social determinants
14 such as housing, employment, health outcomes, and other factors
15 is critical; and

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17 WHEREAS, the federal Office of Management and Budget
18 Statistical Policy Directive 15 (OMB-15) established the Racial
19 and Ethnic Standards for Data Collection to disaggregate
20 Polynesians, Micronesians, and Melanesians from Asians, creating
21 "Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander" as a separate
22 category; and

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24 WHEREAS, the separation of "Native Hawaiian or Other
25 Pacific Islander" from the "Asian" category was and remains
26 critical to informing policymaking and interventions that
27 directly and effectively target health and associated
28 disparities and inequities facing the Native Hawaiian and
29 Pacific Islander communities; and

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31 WHEREAS, the OMB-15 federal directive allows states to
32 create additional subcategories that further disaggregates the
33 seven federal categories for their own state purposes and allows
34 states to use existing data collection systems for race and
35 ethnicity; provided such data can be aggregated by the seven
36 federal categories; and

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38 WHEREAS, Hawaii is among one of few states to further
39 disaggregate Native Hawaiians from Pacific Islanders in certain
40 agencies; data collection and processing practices, which has
41 contributed significantly to efforts to understand and



1 effectively respond to certain impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic;
2 and

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4 WHEREAS, available information indicates that the COVID-19
5 pandemic has disproportionately impacted Native Hawaiians and
6 Pacific Islanders in substantial, varied, and respectively
7 unique ways, and exacerbated their pre-pandemic health and
8 associated socioeconomic disparities; and

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10 WHEREAS, there continue to be substantial data gaps
11 regarding unemployment rates, infection trends, housing and
12 social services needs, law enforcement interactions, and other
13 pandemic-related outcomes specific to Native Hawaiians, Pacific
14 Islanders, and other vulnerable communities who may desperately
15 need targeted and data-informed relief to address their health
16 and health-associated needs; and

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18 WHEREAS, the unavailability of timely, clear, and detailed
19 data, and the lack of consistent data collection, processing,
20 retention, sharing, and governance practices in critical
21 government agencies, have stymied efforts by the Office of
22 Hawaiian Affairs; Papa Ola Lōkahi; and groups such as the Native
23 Hawaiian & Pacific Islander Hawaii COVID-19 Response, Recovery,
24 and Resilience Team to identify, develop, and advocate for
25 effective and targeted policies and interventions to address the
26 impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on the health and social
27 determinants of health of the Native Hawaiian and Pacific
28 Islander communities in Hawaii; and

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30 WHEREAS the lack of timely, clear, and detailed data on
31 Native Hawaiians experiencing challenges in areas such as
32 employment, education, domestic violence, and incarceration have
33 long hindered the efforts of state agencies, including the
34 Office of Hawaiian Affairs, to address systemic inequities and
35 the ongoing legacies of historical injustices and generational
36 trauma; and

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38 WHEREAS, the recovery and resilience of our Native
39 Hawaiian, Pacific Islander, and overall communities are
40 dependent upon timely, clear, and detailed data that
41 consistently disaggregates Native Hawaiians from Pacific



1 Islanders in order to better advance the State's public health
2 and social determinants of health goals much more effectively
3 and efficiently in the twenty-first century; now, therefore,
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5 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
6 Thirty-first Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
7 of 2021, that this body recognizes the importance of updating
8 our state data governance models in order to facilitate
9 effective and efficient fact-based policymaking in the twenty-
10 first century; and
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12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this body recognizes the
13 importance of detailed and disaggregated data, including data
14 that disaggregates Native Hawaiians from Pacific Islanders, in
15 pandemic response and recovery efforts for these communities and
16 for the State as a whole; and
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18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this body urges the Department
19 of Health, Department of Labor and Industrial Relations,
20 Department of Human Services, Judiciary, and county police
21 departments to compile and share existing and disaggregated data
22 on Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islanders with the Office of
23 Hawaiian Affairs and the general public in an expeditious
24 manner; and
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26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this body urges the Department
27 of Health, Department of Labor and Industrial Relations,
28 Department of Human Services, Judiciary, and county police
29 departments to work with the Office of Hawaiian Affairs and the
30 Native Hawaiian & Pacific Islander Hawaii COVID-19 Response,
31 Recovery, and Resilience Team to develop procedures and
32 agreements for improving data collection, processing, retention,
33 governance, and sharing with respect to Native Hawaiians,
34 Pacific Islanders, and other relevant demographics, and report
35 to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the
36 convening of the Regular Session of 2022; and
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38 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Governor is urged to
39 establish a Task Force on twenty-first Century Data Governance,
40 consisting of the Director of the Office of Planning, Chief
41 Information Officer of the Office of Enterprise Technology



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1 Services, Chief Executive Officer of the Office of Hawaiian
2 Affairs, or their designated representatives, and other relevant
3 members to be identified by the Task Force, to assess the
4 current data collection, processing, retention, and sharing
5 procedures, needs, and challenges across state agencies and
6 submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the
7 Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
8 the Regular Session of 2023; and
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10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
11 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Chief Justice of the
12 Judiciary, Chairperson of the Board of Trustees of the Office of
13 Hawaiian Affairs, Director of Health, Director of Labor and
14 Industrial Relations, Director of Human Services, Director of
15 the Office of Planning, Chief Information Officer of the Office
16 of Enterprise Technology Services, chiefs of police of each of
17 the county police departments, and co-leaders of the Native
18 Hawaiian & Pacific Islander Hawaii COVID-19 Response, Recovery,
19 and Resilience Team.
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OFFERED BY: _____



MAR 12 2021

