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# SENATE RESOLUTION

URGING THE COUNTY OF HAWAI‘I TO UTILIZE THE DATA RESULTING FROM  
THE 2020 UNITED STATES CENSUS TO ESTABLISH, IF ALLOWABLE, A  
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION FOR THE COUNTY OF  
HAWAI‘I.

1           WHEREAS, the 2020 United States Census, once the results  
2 become available, will provide critical data that lawmakers,  
3 business owners, and many others may use to provide daily  
4 services, products, and support for communities across the  
5 nation; and

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7           WHEREAS, metropolitan planning organizations were  
8 established to serve as a forum for collaboration among local  
9 communities and government agencies and to direct federal funds  
10 toward projects that increase access to opportunity and  
11 prosperity through improved multimodal pedestrian, bicycle, and  
12 transit options; and

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14           WHEREAS, the Maui Metropolitan Planning Organization is a  
15 federally mandated government agency formed in 2016 by the State  
16 of Hawai‘i and County of Maui to facilitate the continuing,  
17 cooperative, and comprehensive planning for federally funded or  
18 regionally significant transportation systems on the island of  
19 Maui with adequate and informed representation from the state  
20 and county; and

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22           WHEREAS, according to the United States Census Bureau  
23 estimates from 2017, the population of the County of Maui in  
24 2016 was 165,384, surpassing the federal threshold of fifty  
25 thousand people needed to be considered an urbanized area; and

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27           WHEREAS, according to the same United States Census Bureau  
28 estimates, the population of the County of Hawai‘i in 2016 was  
29 198,691, well surpassing the population of the County of Maui in  
30 2016 and the federal threshold needed to be considered an  
31 urbanized area; and

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1           WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of the policy board of  
2 the metropolitan planning organization to make decisions that  
3 are the result of the continuing, cooperative, and comprehensive  
4 transportation planning process and the organization's staff to  
5 support and provide technical resources to the policy board; and  
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7           WHEREAS, the County of Hawai'i does not have a metropolitan  
8 planning organization; now, therefore,  
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10           BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-first  
11 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2021,  
12 that the County of Hawai'i is urged to utilize the data reported  
13 from the 2020 United States Census to establish, if allowable, a  
14 metropolitan planning organization for the County of Hawai'i; and  
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16           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
17 Resolution be transmitted to the Mayor of the County of Hawai'i  
18 and Councilmembers of the County of Hawai'i.

