
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE GOVERNOR AND MAYOR OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF
HONOLULU TO AFFIRM THE SAFE ACCESS OAHU PROGRAM WILL NOT BE
UNNECESSARILY EXTENDED BEYOND THE MARCH 5, 2022, SUNSET
DATE.

1 WHEREAS, on September 13, 2021, pursuant to Order No.
2 2021-15, the Safe Access Oahu program went into effect in the
3 City and County of Honolulu to mitigate the high rate of
4 COVID-19 Delta variant infections on Oahu; and

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6 WHEREAS, the Safe Access Oahu program requires all
7 employees, contractors, and volunteers at businesses such as
8 restaurants, bars, gyms, movie theaters, arcades, and other
9 similar establishments to show proof of full vaccination against
10 COVID-19 or a negative COVID-19 test result each week in order
11 to operate; and

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13 WHEREAS, the Safe Access Oahu program also requires all
14 customers, except those twelve years of age or younger, to show
15 proof of full vaccination or a negative COVID-19 test taken
16 within the previous forty-eight hours in order to enter the
17 establishment; and

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19 WHEREAS, the Safe Access Oahu program was to remain in
20 effect for sixty days and cease on November 13, 2021; and

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22 WHEREAS, on January 5, 2022, in response to the rise of
23 infections from the Omicron variant of COVID-19, Mayor Rick
24 Blangiardi issued Proclamation and Emergency Order No. 2022-01
25 (Order No. 2022-01), which retroactively extended the
26 restrictions imposed by the Safe Access Oahu program through
27 December 1, 2021; and
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1 WHEREAS, the restrictions imposed by the Safe Access Oahu
2 program are to continue through the sixty-day emergency period
3 established by Order No. 2022-01 that began on January 5, 2022;
4 and

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6 WHEREAS, as of January 4, 2022, seventy-eight percent of
7 the population of the City and County of Honolulu has received
8 two doses of the COVID-19 vaccine; and

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10 WHEREAS, small businesses have been one of the hardest-hit
11 sectors amid the COVID-19 pandemic; and

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13 WHEREAS, the Safe Access Oahu program has negatively
14 impacted Oahu's small businesses; and

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16 WHEREAS, a 2020 Yelp survey found that nine in every one
17 thousand businesses in Hawaii have permanently closed, which is
18 one of the highest rates in the United States, while in
19 Honolulu, the figure was roughly eleven out of every one
20 thousand businesses; and

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22 WHEREAS, hundreds of Hawaii businesses were on the brink of
23 closure during the early days of the pandemic and faced further
24 setbacks as the result of the rise in COVID-19 variant
25 infections; and

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27 WHEREAS, the Safe Access Oahu program expired on March 5,
28 2022; and

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30 WHEREAS, however, repeated extensions and retroactive
31 application of the Safe Access Oahu program created confusion
32 and placed undue burdens on local enterprises; and

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34 WHEREAS, broad and indefinite extensions of emergency
35 proclamations by the Mayor and Governor may be abused and can
36 cause confusion and distrust amongst the public; now, therefore,

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38 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
39 Thirty-first Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
40 of 2022, the Senate concurring, that the Governor and Mayor of
41 the City and County of Honolulu are requested to affirm the Safe



H.C.R. NO. 113

1 Access Oahu program will not be unnecessarily extended beyond
2 the March 5, 2022, sunset date; and

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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
5 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor and Mayor
6 of the City and County of Honolulu.

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9 OFFERED BY:

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