
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

5 HAWAII STATE LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL, TRANSGENDER, QUEER, PLUS

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 Accordingly, the purpose of this chapter is to establish a
15 commission to provide for a statewide program, on a permanent



1 and continuing basis, on the status of lesbian, gay, bisexual,
2 transgender, queer, plus people in Hawaii.

3 § -2 Definitions. For purposes of this chapter:

4 "Commission" means the Hawaii state lesbian, gay, bisexual,
5 transgender, queer, plus commission.

6 "County committee" means each committee on the status of
7 lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, plus affairs as
8 appointed by the mayor of each respective county in accordance
9 with this chapter.

10 "Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, plus" includes
11 any individual who identifies as a member of the lesbian, gay,
12 bisexual, transgender, or queer community, or any individual who
13 identifies as a member of a sexual or gender minority, including
14 intersex, asexual, or pansexual individuals.

15 § -3 Hawaii state lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender,
16 queer, plus commission; membership. (a) There is established
17 the Hawaii state lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer,
18 plus commission for a special purpose within the department of
19 human services for administrative purposes.

20 (b) The commission shall consist of the following:



- 1 (1) Ex officio, nonvoting members or their designees,
2 including the:
- 3 (A) Superintendent of education;
 - 4 (B) President of the University of Hawaii system;
 - 5 (C) Director of labor and industrial relations;
 - 6 (D) Director of human resources development;
 - 7 (E) Director of human services; and
 - 8 (F) Director of health; and
- 9 (2) Seven voting members who shall be appointed by the
10 governor in accordance with section 26-34; provided
11 that of these seven members:
- 12 (A) One member shall be from the county of Hawaii;
 - 13 (B) One member shall be from the county of Kauai;
 - 14 (C) One member shall be from the county of Maui; and
 - 15 (D) Four members shall be from the city and county of
16 Honolulu.
- 17 (c) The governor shall appoint members of the commission
18 on the basis of their interest and knowledge in, and their
19 ability to make contributions to, the solution of problems
20 relating to the status of the lesbian, gay, bisexual,
21 transgender, queer, plus community.



1 (d) A chairperson of the commission shall be elected
2 annually from the seven appointed members of the commission. A
3 quorum to do business or validate any act of the commission
4 shall consist of a majority of the seven appointed members of
5 the commission.

6 § -4 **Compensation.** The members of the commission shall
7 serve without compensation but shall be reimbursed for expenses,
8 including travel expenses, necessary for the performance of
9 their duties.

10 § -5 **Executive director.** The commission shall appoint
11 an executive director for the proper administration and
12 enforcement of this chapter. The executive director shall be
13 appointed without regard to chapter 76.

14 § -6 **Powers and duties of the commission.** The
15 commission shall:

16 (1) Act as a central clearinghouse and coordinating body
17 for governmental and nongovernmental activities and
18 information relating to the status of the lesbian,
19 gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, plus community in
20 the State;



- 1 (2) Create public awareness and understanding of the
2 responsibilities, needs, potentials, and contributions
3 of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer,
4 plus community and their roles in the changing
5 society;
- 6 (3) Recommend legislative and administrative action on
7 equal treatment and opportunities for members of the
8 lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, plus
9 community;
- 10 (4) Encourage a long-range program of education of members
11 of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer,
12 plus community in their political rights and
13 responsibilities, particularly with respect to their
14 voting duties;
- 15 (5) Maintain contacts with appropriate federal, state,
16 local, and international agencies concerned with the
17 status of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender,
18 queer, plus community;
- 19 (6) Cooperate and collaborate with national groups on the
20 status of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender,
21 queer, plus community and arrange for participation by



1 representatives of the State in White House
2 conferences and other national conferences;
3 (7) Administer funds allocated for the commission's work,
4 including accepting, disbursing, and allocating funds
5 that may become available from other governmental and
6 private sources; provided that all funds shall be
7 disbursed or allocated in compliance with any specific
8 designation stated by the donor; provided further that
9 in the absence of any specific designation, the funds
10 shall be disbursed or allocated to projects related to
11 any of the purposes of this chapter; and

12 (8) Submit to the governor and legislature an annual
13 report with recommendations.

14 § -7 County committees on lesbian, gay, bisexual,
15 transgender, queer, plus affairs; membership; organization. (a)
16 The mayor of each county shall appoint a county committee on the
17 status of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, plus
18 affairs. Each county committee shall be charged with:

19 (1) The duty and responsibility of developing information
20 as the commission requires or as the county committee
21 deems advisable concerning the status of the members



1 of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer,
2 plus community within the respective counties; and

3 (2) Any other appropriate duties and responsibilities as
4 may be deemed necessary by the respective counties.

5 (b) The county committees shall submit to the commission
6 plans and proposals affecting the status of members of the
7 lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, plus community in
8 the respective counties.

9 (c) Each county committee shall endeavor to secure the
10 widest possible citizen participation in its efforts and may use
11 existing public or private organizations for this purpose. The
12 membership of each county committee shall include, ex officio,
13 the county attorney or corporation counsel and the county
14 representative of the commission. The other members shall be
15 selected on the basis of their interest and knowledge in, and
16 their ability to make contributions to, the solution of problems
17 relating to the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, plus
18 community within the respective county and their knowledge of
19 local conditions. The chairperson shall be elected annually
20 from the nongovernmental members of the county committee. The
21 terms of office of each member shall be four years. Each county



1 committee shall meet at least four times a year. The members of
2 the county committees shall not receive compensation for their
3 services. The county legislative bodies shall be authorized to
4 make appropriations to meet the necessary expenses of their
5 respective committees."

6 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
7 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
8 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2022-2023 for
9 the Hawaii state lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer,
10 plus commission and to carry out the purposes of this Act.

11 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
12 human services for the purposes of this Act.

13 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2022.



Report Title:

Hawaii State Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Plus (LGBTQ+) Commission; County Committees; Appropriation

Description:

Establishes the Hawaii State Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Plus (LGBTQ+) Commission. Requires each county mayor to appoint a county committee on the status of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, plus affairs. Makes an appropriation. (SD1)

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