
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 within the department of human services for
19 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) Eight 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;
 - 15 (D) Four members shall be from the city and county of
16 Honolulu; and
 - 17 (E) One member shall represent the Hawaii sexual and
18 gender minority work group of the department of
19 health.
- 20 (c) The governor shall appoint members of the commission:



1 (1) On the basis of their interest and knowledge in, and
 2 their ability to make contributions to, the solution
 3 of problems relating to the status of the lesbian,
 4 gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, plus community; and

5 (2) That reflect the diversity of the lesbian, gay,
 6 bisexual, transgender, queer, plus community by
 7 including individuals from different lesbian, gay,
 8 bisexual, transgender, queer, plus identities.

9 (d) A chairperson of the commission shall be elected
 10 annually from the seven appointed members of the commission. A
 11 quorum to do business or validate any act of the commission
 12 shall consist of a majority of the seven appointed members of
 13 the commission.

14 **§ -4 Compensation.** The members of the commission shall
 15 serve without compensation but shall be reimbursed for expenses,
 16 including travel expenses, necessary for the performance of
 17 their duties.

18 **§ -5 Executive director.** The commission shall appoint
 19 an executive director for the proper administration and
 20 enforcement of this chapter. The executive director shall be
 21 appointed without regard to chapter 76.



1 **§ -6 Powers and duties of the commission.** The
2 commission shall:

3 (1) Act as a central clearinghouse and coordinating body
4 for governmental and nongovernmental activities and
5 information relating to the status of the lesbian,
6 gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, plus community in
7 the State;

8 (2) Create public awareness and understanding of the
9 responsibilities, needs, potentials, and contributions
10 of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer,
11 plus community and their roles in the changing
12 society;

13 (3) Recommend legislative and administrative action on
14 equal treatment and opportunities for members of the
15 lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, plus
16 community;

17 (4) Encourage a long-range program of education of members
18 of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer,
19 plus community in their political rights and
20 responsibilities, particularly with respect to their
21 voting duties;



- 1 (5) Maintain contacts with appropriate federal, state,
2 local, and international agencies concerned with the
3 status of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender,
4 queer, plus community;
- 5 (6) Cooperate and collaborate with national groups on the
6 status of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender,
7 queer, plus community and arrange for participation by
8 representatives of the State in White House
9 conferences and other national conferences;
- 10 (7) Administer funds allocated for the commission's work,
11 including accepting, disbursing, and allocating funds
12 that may become available from other governmental and
13 private sources; provided that all funds shall be
14 disbursed or allocated in compliance with any specific
15 designation stated by the donor; provided further that
16 in the absence of any specific designation, the funds
17 shall be disbursed or allocated to projects related to
18 any of the purposes of this chapter; and
- 19 (8) Submit to the governor and legislature an annual
20 report with recommendations.



1 **§ -7 County committees on lesbian, gay, bisexual,**
2 **transgender, queer, plus affairs; membership; organization. (a)**

3 The mayor of each county shall appoint a county committee on the
4 status of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, plus
5 affairs. Each county committee shall be charged with:

6 (1) The duty and responsibility of developing information
7 as the commission requires or as the county committee
8 deems advisable concerning the status of the members
9 of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer,
10 plus community within the respective counties; and

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

13 (b) The county committees shall submit to the commission
14 plans and proposals affecting the status of members of the
15 lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, plus community in
16 the respective counties.

17 (c) Each county committee shall endeavor to secure the
18 widest possible citizen participation in its efforts and may use
19 existing public or private organizations for this purpose. The
20 membership of each county committee shall include, ex officio,
21 the county attorney or corporation counsel and the county



1 representative of the commission. The other members shall be
2 selected on the basis of their interest and knowledge in, and
3 their ability to make contributions to, the solution of problems
4 relating to the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, plus
5 community within the respective county and their knowledge of
6 local conditions. The chairperson shall be elected annually
7 from the nongovernmental members of the county committee. The
8 terms of office of each member shall be four years. Each county
9 committee shall meet at least four times a year. The members of
10 the county committees shall not receive compensation for their
11 services. The county legislative bodies shall be authorized to
12 make appropriations to meet the necessary expenses of their
13 respective committees."

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

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



1 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
2 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
3 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2022-2023 to
4 fulfill the State's obligation to share the cost of any new
5 mandated program pursuant to Article VIII, section 5, of the
6 state constitution for the establishment of county committees on
7 lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, plus affairs.

8 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the respective
9 counties for the purposes of this Act; provided that no funds
10 shall be allocated to or expended by a county that does not
11 appropriate county moneys to match state moneys appropriated
12 pursuant to this section.

13 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050.



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. Effective 7/1/2050. (SD2)

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