
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE GOVERNOR TO CONVENE A TASK FORCE TO EXAMINE AND
MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE EXISTING PROCEDURES FOR THE
ADOPTION OF THE STATE BUILDING CODE.

1 WHEREAS, a 2019 study by the Department of Business,
2 Economic Development, and Tourism found that the State will
3 require an additional 50,156 homes by the year 2025, with the
4 City and County of Honolulu requiring 22,168 new units, Hawaii
5 County requiring 13,303 new units, Maui County requiring 10,404
6 new units, and Kauai County requiring 4,281 new unit; and

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8 WHEREAS, there has been a lack of measurable progress at
9 the county level to enact policies that will stimulate housing
10 production to meet the projected demand; and

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12 WHEREAS, existing laws and county procedures regarding the
13 adoption and implementation of building codes impede the
14 building permit process; and

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16 WHEREAS, the State Building Code Council is responsible for
17 establishing a state building code through the timely adoption
18 of national building codes, which is based on:

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20 (1) The state fire code, as adopted by the State Fire
21 Council;
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23 (2) The Uniform Plumbing Code;
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25 (3) The International Building Code, International
26 Residential Code, and International Energy
27 Conservation Code, as published by the International
28 Code Council;
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H.C.R. NO. 39

1 (4) The National Electrical Code, as published by the
2 National Fire Protection Association; and

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4 (5) Hawaii design standards implementing the criteria
5 pursuant to Act 5, Special Session Laws of Hawaii,
6 2005, as applicable to emergency shelters and
7 essential government facilities; and
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9 WHEREAS, the process to obtain a building permit in the
10 State is often redundant, costly, and time consuming for
11 builders and residents; and
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13 WHEREAS, the State Building Code Council should be required
14 to take into account the experiences and climate of the current
15 building industry, including economic impact on future buyers;
16 now, therefore,
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18 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
19 Thirty-second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
20 Session of 2023, the Senate concurring, that the Governor is
21 requested to convene a task force to examine and make
22 recommendations on the existing procedures for the adoption of
23 the state building code; and
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25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to:

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27 (1) Consider whether the current state building code
28 adoption process is effective and relevant;

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30 (2) Consider whether county building codes should be
31 eliminated in favor of a single statewide building
32 code; and
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34 (3) Examine the extended time frame and financial impacts
35 that building code adoption has on construction and
36 housing prices in the State; and
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38 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to
39 consist of the following individuals:
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- 1 (1) The Governor, or the Governor's designee, who is
2 requested to serve as the chairperson of the task
3 force;
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- 5 (2) The State Comptroller, or the State Comptroller's
6 designee;
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- 8 (3) The Director of the City and County of Honolulu's
9 Department of Planning and Permitting, or the
10 Director's designee;
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- 12 (4) The Director of the County of Hawaii's Planning
13 Department, or the Director's designee;
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- 15 (5) The Director of the County of Kauai's Planning
16 Department, or the Director's designee;
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- 18 (6) The Director of the County of Maui's Planning
19 Department, or the Director's designee;
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- 21 (7) One member from the House of Representatives, to be
22 appointed by the Speaker of the House of
23 Representatives;
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- 25 (8) One member of the Senate, to be appointed by the
26 President of the Senate;
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- 28 (9) Two representatives from the Building Industry
29 Association of Hawaii with knowledge and experience in
30 construction and construction costs;
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- 32 (10) Two representatives from the General Contractors
33 Association of Hawaii with knowledge and experience in
34 construction and construction costs;
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- 36 (11) Two representatives from the Subcontractors
37 Association of Hawaii with knowledge and experience in
38 construction and construction costs; and
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- 40 (12) Two representatives from NAIOP Hawaii with knowledge
41 and experience in construction or development and
42 associated costs; and



H.C.R. NO. 39

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Governor and Department of Accounting and General Services are requested to provide administrative support to the task force; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to submit a report of its findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2025; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor; Comptroller; Directors of the Planning Departments of the counties of Hawaii, Kauai, and Maui; Director of the Department of Planning and Permitting of the City and County of Honolulu; President of the Building Industry Association of Hawaii; President of the General Contractors Association of Hawaii; President of the Subcontractors Association of Hawaii; and President of NAIOP Hawaii.

OFFERED BY: 

MAR - 8 2023

