
HOUSE 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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30 (4) The National Electrical Code, as published by the
31 National Fire Protection Association; and
32



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1 (5) Hawaii design standards implementing the criteria
2 pursuant to Act 5, Special Session Laws of Hawaii,
3 2005, as applicable to emergency shelters and
4 essential government facilities; and
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6 WHEREAS, the process to obtain a building permit in the
7 State is often redundant, costly, and time consuming for
8 builders and residents; and
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10 WHEREAS, the State Building Code Council should be required
11 to take into account the experiences and climate of the current
12 building industry, including economic impact on future buyers;
13 now, therefore,
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15 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
16 Thirty-second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
17 Session of 2023, that the Governor is requested to convene a
18 task force to examine and make recommendations on the existing
19 procedures for the adoption of the state building code; and
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21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to:

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- 23 (1) Consider whether the current state building code
24 adoption process is effective and relevant;
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 - 26 (2) Consider whether county building codes should be
27 eliminated in favor of a single statewide building
28 code; and
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 - 30 (3) Examine the extended time frame and financial impacts
31 that building code adoption has on construction and
32 housing prices in the State; and
33

34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to
35 consist of the following individuals:
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- 37 (1) The Governor, or the Governor's designee, who is
38 requested to serve as the chairperson of the task
39 force;
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- 41 (2) The State Comptroller, or the State Comptroller's
42 designee;



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- 2 (3) The Director of the City and County of Honolulu's
- 3 Department of Planning and Permitting, or the
- 4 Director's designee;
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- 6 (4) The Director of the County of Hawaii's Planning
- 7 Department, or the Director's designee;
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- 9 (5) The Director of the County of Kauai's Planning
- 10 Department, or the Director's designee;
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- 12 (6) The Director of the County of Maui's Planning
- 13 Department, or the Director's designee;
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- 15 (7) One member from the House of Representatives, to be
- 16 appointed by the Speaker of the House of
- 17 Representatives;
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- 19 (8) One member of the Senate, to be appointed by the
- 20 President of the Senate;
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- 22 (9) Two representatives from the Building Industry
- 23 Association of Hawaii with knowledge and experience in
- 24 construction and construction costs;
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- 26 (10) Two representatives from the General Contractors
- 27 Association of Hawaii with knowledge and experience in
- 28 construction and construction costs;
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- 30 (11) Two representatives from the Subcontractors
- 31 Association of Hawaii with knowledge and experience in
- 32 construction and construction costs; and
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- 34 (12) Two representatives from NAIOP Hawaii with knowledge
- 35 and experience in construction or development and
- 36 associated costs; and
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38 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Governor and Department of
39 Accounting and General Services are requested to provide
40 administrative support to the task force; and
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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to
2 submit a report of its findings and recommendations, including
3 any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than
4 twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of
5 2025; and

6
7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
8 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor; Comptroller;
9 Directors of the Planning Departments of the counties of Hawaii,
10 Kauai, and Maui; Director of the Department of Planning and
11 Permitting of the City and County of Honolulu; President of the
12 Building Industry Association of Hawaii; President of the
13 General Contractors Association of Hawaii; President of the
14 Subcontractors Association of Hawaii; and President of NAIOP
15 Hawaii.

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OFFERED BY: 

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