
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE STATE FOUNDATION ON CULTURE AND THE ARTS TO
ESTABLISH A MUSEUM OF MODERN HAWAII HISTORY TASK FORCE.

1 WHEREAS, the State has made national and global impacts
2 that deserve to be celebrated and taught to both visitors and
3 residents; and
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5 WHEREAS, since the beginning of the twentieth century, the
6 State has served as a stage for national and global history such
7 as the events of World War II and landmark judicial rulings such
8 as the *Baehr v. Miike*, 80 Haw. 341 (1996), decision relating to
9 same-sex marriage; and
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11 WHEREAS, the State was also instrumental as a birthplace of
12 crucial legislation and political progress such as Title IX of
13 the Education Amendments of 1972, which prohibits sex
14 discrimination in any education program or activity receiving
15 federal financial assistance, and the enactment of Act 97,
16 Session Laws of Hawaii 2015, which establishes a renewable
17 energy portfolio standards target of one hundred percent
18 renewable electric energy by December 31, 2045; and
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20 WHEREAS, presently, other institutions in the State share
21 the histories and stories of Hawaii's history before the modern
22 era, including:
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- 24 (1) The Bernice Pauahi Bishop Museum, also known as the
25 State of Hawaii Museum of Natural and Cultural
26 History, which has a primary focus on early Hawaiian
27 history, navigation, and science;
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29 (2) Iolani Palace, which provides a primary focus on the
30 Hawaiian monarchy and overthrow era;
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- 1 (3) The King Kamehameha V Judiciary History Center, which
2 has a primary focus on educating the public on the
3 judicial process and Hawaii's legal history; and
4
- 5 (4) The State Archives, which has a vast catalogue of
6 historical documents and artifacts such as copies of
7 the Hawaii State Constitution and moon rocks, but no
8 meaningful place to properly exhibit certain items and
9 tell their stories; and

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11 WHEREAS, the establishment of a Museum of Modern Hawaii
12 History will build on the stories and history told by other
13 partner institutions and allow residents and tourists to learn
14 about and reflect upon the State's rich history and global
15 achievements in the modern statehood era; now, therefore,
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17 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-second
18 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2023, the
19 House of Representatives concurring, that the State Foundation
20 on Culture and the Arts is requested to establish a task force
21 to develop plans for a Museum of Modern Hawaii History; and
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23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to
24 consist of the following members:
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- 26 (1) The Executive Director of the State Foundation on
27 Culture and the Arts, or the Executive Director's
28 designee, who is requested to serve as chairperson;
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- 30 (2) The President and Chief Executive Officer of the
31 Hawaii Tourism Authority, or the President and Chief
32 Executive Officer's designee;
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- 34 (3) The State Archivist, or the State Archivist's
35 designee;
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- 37 (4) The Chief Justice, or the Chief Justice's designee,
38 representing the King Kamehameha V Judiciary History
39 Center;
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- 41 (5) The chairpersons of the Senate and House of
42 Representatives standing committees with primary



1 purview over culture and the arts, or their designees;
2 and

3
4 (6) Additional members with appropriate special expertise
5 who are recommended by the members with approval from
6 the chairperson; and
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8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Museum of Modern Hawaii
9 History is requested to have the following scope:

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11 (1) Primarily focus on the territorial and statehood eras
12 of Hawaii's history and complement other institutions;
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14 (2) Chronicle Hawaii's significant milestones and events
15 in its history and the leadership that the State has
16 demonstrated with respect to many significant issues
17 facing the nation and the world;
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19 (3) Provide a window into current events and issues; and
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21 (4) Partner with other institutions in Hawaii and abroad
22 to share relevant narratives; and
23

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to
25 submit an annual report of its progress, findings, and
26 recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the
27 Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
28 the Regular Sessions of 2024, 2025, 2026, and 2027; and
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30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to
31 dissolve at will; and
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33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
34 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Comptroller, Chief
35 Justice, Executive Director of the State Foundation on Culture
36 and the Arts, President and Chief Executive Officer of the
37 Hawaii Tourism Authority, and State Archivist.

