
SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU TO SUMMARIZE THE
LAWS IN OTHER STATES THAT PROVIDE FOR A CONTINUOUS
LEGISLATIVE SESSION.

1 WHEREAS, the legislative process allows Hawaii's people to
2 engage with policy to create meaningful change for the State;
3 and
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5 WHEREAS, pursuant to article III, section 10, of the Hawaii
6 State Constitution, the Legislature only has sixty to seventy-
7 five session days, generally stretching from the middle of
8 January until early May to conduct its business during a regular
9 session; and
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11 WHEREAS, the compressed, rushed legislative process may
12 inhibit the public from participating and advocating at the
13 Legislature; and
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15 WHEREAS, individuals who are not full-time employed in
16 advocacy may have an easier time participating in the
17 legislative process if the timetable and deadlines were not as
18 compressed; and
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20 WHEREAS, efficiency, productivity, orderliness, and
21 transparency of the Legislature could be improved by requiring
22 that the Legislature be in session during every month of the
23 year; and
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25 WHEREAS, creating greater transparency of the legislative
26 process for State's citizens will allow more individuals to
27 engage in the policymaking process while also creating more
28 opportunities for legislators to make informed policy decisions;
29 now, therefore,
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31 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-second
32 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2023,
33 that the Legislative Reference Bureau is requested to summarize



1 the laws in other states that provide for the continuous session
2 of their legislatures and, to the extent such information is
3 available, the policy reasons for those state's laws; and
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5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Reference
6 Bureau is requested to submit the summary to the Legislature no
7 later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular
8 Session of 2024; and
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10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this
11 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of the Legislative
12 Reference Bureau.

