
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING MICROSOFT TO CONSIDER BUILDING A DATA CENTER IN HAWAII.

1 WHEREAS, Microsoft has made numerous investments to people,
2 organizations, and the planet and has also demonstrated its deep
3 commitment to the State; and

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5 WHEREAS, Microsoft employs more than sixty-five employees
6 throughout the State, who in turn have engaged in two hundred
7 eighty-four hours of volunteer work; and

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9 WHEREAS, six hundred sixty-three nonprofits in the State
10 have received cash and in-kind donations from Microsoft; and

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12 WHEREAS, Microsoft has demonstrated its commitment to
13 workforce development and cybersecurity in the State via a grant
14 to the Hawai'i Community College and the American Association of
15 Community Colleges' Cyber Skills for All Initiative, which helps
16 fund and provide technical assistance to community colleges to
17 accelerate their cybersecurity programs; and

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19 WHEREAS, this initiative is part of Microsoft's national
20 campaign to help community colleges work to train and recruit
21 people for jobs in the cybersecurity workforce, with a goal of
22 two hundred fifty thousand cybersecurity workers by 2025,
23 representing half of the country's workforce shortage; and

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25 WHEREAS, Microsoft has also established several local
26 partnerships in Hawaii; and

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28 WHEREAS, with support from a Microsoft grant, Goodwill is
29 equipping job seekers and career advancers with digital skills
30 aligned with in-demand occupations needed for post-pandemic
31 employment, including job seekers learning in the top three
32 levels of digital skills training: productivity software, entry



1 level digital skills, and mid-level and occupation-specific
2 digital skills; and

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4 WHEREAS, Microsoft also has an official Digital Alliance
5 partnership in the State, which focuses on STEM and computer
6 science for youth, and a partnership with the Chamber of
7 Commerce Hawaii focused on entrepreneurs, small businesses, and
8 education; and

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10 WHEREAS, Microsoft is also committed to improving broadband
11 access in the State through its Airband Initiative, which
12 advances digital equity access to affordable Internet,
13 affordable devices, and digital skills as a platform for
14 empowerment and digital transformation; and

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16 WHEREAS, because environmental issues are also increasingly
17 affecting living conditions and economies throughout the globe,
18 Microsoft has made a commitment to be carbon negative, water
19 positive, and zero waste by 2030, and to protect ecosystems by
20 developing a Planetary Computer; and

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22 WHEREAS, additionally, through new digital tools, Microsoft
23 can assist in decarbonizing operations and infrastructure, which
24 was the modification behind the Microsoft Cloud for
25 Sustainability; and

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27 WHEREAS, two seismic shifts in society are happening at the
28 same time: the digitization of nearly everything, in what some
29 call the fourth industrial revolution, and a move toward
30 renewable energy driven by the climate crisis and other world
31 events; and

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33 WHEREAS, at the confluence of these movements are thousands
34 of data centers operating around the clock to support a wide
35 spectrum of critical services; and

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37 WHEREAS, data centers are facilities that centralize an
38 organization's information technology operations and equipment
39 for the purposes of storing, processing, and disseminating data
40 and applications; and

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1 WHEREAS, according to a 2017 report released by the United
2 States Chamber Technology Engagement Center, the average data
3 center adds \$32,500,000 in economic activity to its local
4 community each year; and

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6 WHEREAS, in 2021, Microsoft announced plans to build fifty
7 to one hundred new data centers across the globe each year; and

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9 WHEREAS, establishing a Microsoft data center in Hawaii
10 would have a positive impact on the State's economy and would
11 further Microsoft's longstanding commitment to the State; now,
12 therefore,

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14 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
15 Thirty-second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
16 Session of 2023, the Senate concurring, that Microsoft is urged
17 to consider building a data center in Hawaii; and

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19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
20 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chief Executive
21 Officer at Microsoft and Vice President of Global Data Center
22 Construction at Microsoft.

