

MAR 10 2023

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU TO CONDUCT A STUDY
ON THE FEASIBILITY OF 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, the
33 House of Representatives concurring, that the Legislative



1 Reference Bureau is requested to conduct a study on the
2 feasibility of a continuous legislative session; and
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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study is requested to
5 examine functions of continuous legislatures in other states in
6 comparison to Hawaii; and
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8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study is also requested to
9 determine, if any, an increase in productivity of the
10 legislative session by allowing more time for the legislative
11 process; and
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13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Reference
14 Bureau is requested to submit the study to the Legislature no
15 later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular
16 Session of 2024; and
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18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this
19 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of the
20 Legislative Reference Bureau.
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OFFERED BY: 

