
SENATE CONCURRENT 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 units; 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;

22 (2) The Uniform Plumbing Code;

23 (3) The International Building Code, International
24 Residential Code, and International Energy
25 Conservation Code, as published by the International
26 Code Council;
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29 (4) The National Electrical Code, as published by the
30 National Fire Protection Association; and
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 2 (5) Hawaii design standards implementing the criteria
 3 pursuant to Act 5, Special Session Laws of Hawaii,
 4 2005, as applicable to emergency shelters and
 5 essential government facilities; and
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7 WHEREAS, the process to obtain a building permit in the
 8 State is often redundant, costly, and time consuming for
 9 builders and residents; and
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11 WHEREAS, the State Building Code Council should be required
 12 to take into account the experiences and climate of the current
 13 building industry, including economic impact on future buyers;
 14 now, therefore,
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16 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-second
 17 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2023, the
 18 House of Representatives concurring, that the Governor is
 19 requested to convene a task force to examine and make
 20 recommendations on the existing procedures for the adoption of
 21 the state building code; and
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23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to:
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25 (1) Consider whether the current state building code
 26 adoption process is effective and relevant;
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28 (2) Consider whether county building codes should be
 29 eliminated in favor of a single statewide building
 30 code; and
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32 (3) Examine the extended time frame and financial impacts
 33 that building code adoption has on construction and
 34 housing prices in the State; and
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36 (4) Review educational programs for stakeholders on impact
 37 of building code changes; and
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39 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to
 40 consist of the following individuals:
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- 1 (1) The Governor, or the Governor's designee, who is
2 requested to serve as the chairperson of the task
3 force;
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- 5 (2) The State Comptroller, or the State Comptroller's
6 designee;
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- 8 (3) The Director of the City and County of Honolulu's
9 Department of Planning and Permitting, or the
10 Director's designee;
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- 12 (4) The Director of the County of Hawaii's Planning
13 Department, or the Director's designee;
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- 15 (5) The Director of the County of Kauai's Planning
16 Department, or the Director's designee;
17
- 18 (6) The Director of the County of Maui's Planning
19 Department, or the Director's designee;
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- 21 (7) One member from the House of Representatives, to be
22 appointed by the Speaker of the House of
23 Representatives;
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- 25 (8) One member of the Senate, to be appointed by the
26 President of the Senate;
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- 28 (9) Two representatives from the Building Industry
29 Association of Hawaii with knowledge and experience in
30 construction and construction costs;
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- 32 (10) Two representatives from the General Contractors
33 Association of Hawaii with knowledge and experience in
34 construction and construction costs;
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- 36 (11) Two representatives from the Subcontractors
37 Association of Hawaii with knowledge and experience in
38 construction and construction costs; and
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- 40 (12) Two representatives from NAIOP Hawaii with knowledge
41 and experience in construction or development and
42 associated costs; and



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- 2 (13) One representative from the International Brotherhood
- 3 of Electrical Workers, Local 1186; and
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- 5 (14) One representative from the Plumber and Fitters, Local
- 6 675; and
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8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Governor and Department of
 9 Accounting and General Services are requested to provide
 10 administrative support to the task force; and

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12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to
 13 submit a report of its findings and recommendations, including
 14 any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than
 15 twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of
 16 2025; and

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18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 19 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor;
 20 Comptroller; Directors of the Planning Departments of the
 21 counties of Hawaii, Kauai, and Maui; Director of the Department
 22 of Planning and Permitting of the City and County of Honolulu;
 23 President of the Building Industry Association of Hawaii;
 24 President of the General Contractors Association of Hawaii;
 25 President of the Subcontractors Association of Hawaii; President
 26 of NAIOP Hawaii; President of the International Brotherhood of
 27 Electrical Workers, Local 1186; and President of the Plumber and
 28 Fitters, Local 675.

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