
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE HAWAII PROFESSIONAL CHAPTER OF THE SOCIETY OF
PROFESSIONAL JOURNALISTS TO RECOMMEND A PROCESS THAT
INDIVIDUALS CAN UTILIZE TO EVALUATE AND IDENTIFY WHETHER OR
NOT NEWS SOURCES ADHERE TO ETHICAL AND OBJECTIVE STANDARDS.

1 WHEREAS, the Society of Professional Journalists and
2 objective news adhere to a code of ethics and journalistic
3 standards that can ensure objective reporting, truth, and
4 prevent the spread of misinformation; and

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6 WHEREAS, the collapse of independent local media in the
7 digital economy has seen legacy media consolidate and become
8 increasingly more expensive to access for Americans and
9 residents of the State; and

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11 WHEREAS, proliferation of social media has enabled some
12 organizations and individuals with broad reach presenting
13 themselves as news sources to intentionally or inadvertently
14 spread misinformation, making it difficult for the average
15 person to distinguish truth from fiction; and

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17 WHEREAS, the continued advancements in artificial
18 intelligence have created a new tool to create and disseminate
19 unverifiable information more easily than ever before; and

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21 WHEREAS, developing a way to recognize sources of news and
22 information that adhere to ethical, objective, journalistic
23 standards will help arm the public with a means to distinguish
24 between truth and misinformation; and

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26 WHEREAS, with the rise and exacerbation of misinformation,
27 other states and countries have established task forces, media
28 literacy campaigns, and introduced legislation to mitigate the
29 harmful effects of misinformation; and



1 WHEREAS, the Hawaii Professional Chapter of the Society of
2 Professional Journalists has a responsibility to ensure that
3 information is reported with accuracy and objectivity that acts
4 in accordance with ethical standards; now, therefore,

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6 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-second
7 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2024, the
8 House of Representatives concurring, that the Hawaii
9 Professional Chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists
10 is requested to recommend a process that individuals can utilize
11 to evaluate and identify whether or not news sources adhere to
12 ethical and objective standards; and

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14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hawaii Professional Chapter
15 of the Society of Professional Journalists is requested to
16 submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the
17 Legislature no later than forty days prior to the convening of
18 the Regular Session of 2025; and

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20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this
21 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the President of the
22 Hawaii Professional Chapter of the Society of Professional
23 Journalists.

