
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A WORKING GROUP TO STUDY THE
FEASIBILITY OF CREATING A HAWAII CULTURAL TRUST TO PRESERVE
AND PROMOTE HAWAII'S CULTURAL RESOURCES.

1 WHEREAS, Hawaii is home to a rich cultural heritage that
2 includes indigenous traditions, historical landmarks, diverse
3 artistic expressions, and significant cultural institutions; and
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5 WHEREAS, sustained investment in cultural preservation,
6 heritage, and the arts supports economic growth, education,
7 tourism, and the overall well-being of the people of Hawaii; and
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9 WHEREAS, various states have successful cultural trusts
10 that could be used as models for sustainable funding of cultural
11 organizations by leveraging donations and tax incentives to
12 support arts and heritage programs; and
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14 WHEREAS, establishing a Hawaii Cultural Trust could enhance
15 financial sustainability for cultural institutions and the arts,
16 to provide long-term support for the preservation and promotion
17 of Hawaii's cultural resources; now, therefore,
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19 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
20 Thirty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
21 of 2025, the Senate concurring, that a working group is
22 requested to be established to study the feasibility of creating
23 a Hawaii Cultural Trust to preserve and promote Hawaii's
24 cultural resources; and
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26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested
27 to consist of the following members:
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- 29 (1) The chairperson of the House of Representatives
30 standing committee with primary jurisdiction over



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1 culture and the arts, who is requested to serve as co-
2 chairperson of the working group for the purposes of
3 convening the working group;

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5 (2) The chairperson of the Senate standing committee with
6 primary jurisdiction over culture and the arts, who is
7 requested to serve as co-chairperson of the working
8 group for the purposes of convening the working group;

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10 (3) The Director of Business, Economic Development, and
11 Tourism, or the Director's designee;

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13 (4) The Director of the State Foundation on Culture and
14 the Arts, or the Director's designee;

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16 (5) The Chief Executive Officer of the Office of Hawaiian
17 Affairs, or the Chief Executive Officer's designee;
18 and

19
20 (6) The Interim President and Chief Executive Officer of
21 the Hawaii Tourism Authority, or the Interim President
22 and Chief Executive Officer's designee; and

23
24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested
25 to invite a representative or the representative's designee from
26 the following organizations to participate in the working group:

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28 (1) The Hawai'i Council for the Humanities;

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30 (2) A Native Hawaiian cultural organization;

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32 (3) A nonprofit cultural or arts organization;

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34 (4) A university or research institution specializing in
35 cultural policy or arts administration; and

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37 (5) Any other members as deemed necessary by the working
38 group to ensure a comprehensive study; and

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40 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested
41 to examine the potential structure, funding mechanisms, and



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1 governance models for a cultural trust in Hawaii, including but
2 not limited to:

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- 4 (1) Identifying potential sources of funding, including
5 public, private, and philanthropic contributions;
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- 7 (2) Exploring tax incentives and other fiscal strategies
8 to encourage donations;
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- 10 (3) Evaluating the impact such a trust could have on
11 Hawaii's cultural institutions, the arts, and
12 communities;
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- 14 (4) Assessing any administrative and legal frameworks
15 necessary to implement and maintain a cultural trust;
16 and
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- 18 (5) Drafting recommendations for legislative action,
19 including proposed legislation establishing the Hawaii
20 Cultural Trust; and
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22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested
23 to submit a report of its findings and recommendations,
24 including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later
25 than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session
26 of 2026; and
27

28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
29 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor; Director
30 of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Chairperson of
31 the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts; Chief Executive
32 Officer of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; Interim President and
33 Chief Executive Officer of the Hawaii Tourism Authority; and
34 Executive Director of the Hawai'i Council for the Humanities.
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OFFERED BY:



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