
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

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5 REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND
6 TOURISM TO ESTABLISH A NATIVE HAWAIIAN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
7 WORKING GROUP.
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11 WHEREAS, Native Hawaiians experience high levels of poverty
12 relative to other racial groups in the State; and
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14 WHEREAS, according to a recent report by Aloha United Way,
15 fifty-seven percent of Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander
16 households fall below the Asset Limited, Income Constrained,
17 Employed (ALICE) threshold; and
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19 WHEREAS, according to a report published by Hawai'i
20 Appleseed, Native Hawaiians are amongst the lowest-earning
21 ethnic groups in the State, with an average individual income of
22 around \$30,000 as of 2022; and
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24 WHEREAS, many Native Hawaiians have been forced to leave
25 Hawaii to pursue better economic conditions and job
26 opportunities, with more Native Hawaiians now living on the
27 continent than in Hawaii; and
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29 WHEREAS, there is a need for the State to consider economic
30 development strategies that help improve financial conditions
31 and economic opportunities for Native Hawaiians; now, therefore,
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33 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
34 Thirty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
35 of 2025, the Senate concurring, that the Department of Business,
36 Economic Development, and Tourism is requested to establish a
37 Native Hawaiian Economic Development Working Group; and
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39 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested
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- (1) Identify economic development initiatives that directly benefit Native Hawaiians; and
- (2) Study the definition of gaming and look at all options to spur economic opportunity; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following individuals are requested to serve as members of the working group:

- (1) The Chairs of the Standing Committees of the Senate and House of Representatives with primary jurisdiction over economic development, or the Chairs' designees, who shall serve as co-chairpersons of the working group;
- (2) The President of the Senate, or the President's designee;
- (3) The Speaker of the House of Representatives, or the Speaker's designee;
- (4) A representative from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs;
- (5) A representative from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism;
- (6) A representative from the Department of Law Enforcement;
- (7) A representative from the Department of Taxation;
- (8) A representative from the Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement, to be invited by the co-chairpersons of the working group;
- (9) A representative from the Native Hawaiian Chamber of Commerce, to be invited by the co-chairpersons of the working group;

- 1 (10) One individual having knowledge, experience, and
2 expertise in the area of labor, to be invited by the
3 co-chairpersons of the working group;
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- 5 (11) One individual representing Native Hawaiian culture,
6 to be invited by the co-chairpersons of the working
7 group;
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- 9 (12) One individual having experience in social services
10 and behavioral addictions, to be invited by the co-
11 chairpersons of the working group;
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- 13 (13) One individual possessing academic and research
14 expertise in global tourism, sports, and entertainment
15 industries, to be invited by the co-chairpersons of
16 the working group; and
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- 18 (14) Other interested parties having relevant experience
19 and expertise, as invited by the co-chairpersons of
20 the working group; and
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22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested
23 to submit to the Legislature a report of its findings and
24 recommendations, including any proposed legislation, no later
25 than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session
26 of 2027; and
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28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Business,
29 Economic Development, and Tourism is requested to provide
30 necessary administrative support to the working group in
31 carrying out its duties, including the preparation of the report
32 to the Legislature; and
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34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Business,
35 Economic Development, and Tourism is requested to dissolve the
36 Native Hawaiian Economic Development Working Group on June 30,
37 2028; and
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39 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
40 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of
41 Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Director of Law
42 Enforcement; and Director of Taxation.

