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## HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DIRECTOR OF HEALTH TO CONVENE A WATER  
FLUORIDATION WORKING GROUP.

1           WHEREAS, many residents in the State do not have dental  
2 care insurance; and

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4           WHEREAS, the State also received a failing grade in three  
5 recent oral health report cards published by the Pew Center on  
6 the States, a division of the Pew Charitable Trusts; and

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8           WHEREAS, increasing the concentration of fluoride, a  
9 naturally occurring mineral, in the public water supply to an  
10 optimal level benefits all people who drink therefrom, promoting  
11 good oral health to prevent or even reverse tooth decay; and

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13           WHEREAS, according to the federal Centers for Disease  
14 Control and Prevention, water fluoridation is both safe and the  
15 most cost-effective way of preventing tooth decay; and

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17           WHEREAS, presently, the State's public water systems have  
18 no added fluoride, with the exception of military bases; and

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20           WHEREAS, water fluoridation may address ongoing oral health  
21 issues across the State by providing communities with enough  
22 fluoride in local water systems to prevent tooth decay; now,  
23 therefore,

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25           BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
26 Thirty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
27 of 2025, that the Director of Health is requested to convene a  
28 Water Fluoridation Working Group to collaborate on determining  
29 the best practices for, and addressing obstacles to fluoridating  
30 the State's drinking water; and

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32           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Water Fluoridation Working  
33 Group is requested to consist of the following members:

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35           (1) The Director of Health, or the Director's designee,  
36           who shall serve as Chairperson of the Working Group;



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- (2) A representative from the Board of Water Supply of the City and County of Honolulu;
- (3) A representative from the Department of Water of the county of Kauai;
- (4) A representative from the Department of Water Supply of the county of Maui; and
- (5) A representative from the Department of Water Supply of the county of Hawaii; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Water Fluoridation Working Group is requested to submit a report of its findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2026; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Water Fluoridation Working Group is requested to dissolve on June 30, 2026; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Health, Manager and Chief Engineer of the Board of Water Supply of the City and County of Honolulu, Director of the Department of Water Supply of the County of Maui, Manager-Chief Engineer of the Department of Water Supply of the County of Hawaii, and Manager and Chief Engineer of the Department of Water of the County of Kauai.

OFFERED BY:   
MAR 07 2025