
HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU TO CONDUCT A STUDY TO UNDERSTAND THE IMPLEMENTATION PROCESS AND PROJECTED FINANCIAL IMPACT OF ADOPTING FISCAL NOTES INTO THE STATE'S LEGISLATIVE PROCEDURE.

1 WHEREAS, numerous states incorporate fiscal notes into
2 their legislative process to increase public transparency by
3 disclosing the potential financial impact a measure would have
4 on the state and local government; and

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6 WHEREAS, the Council of State Governments reports that
7 forty-four states include projected future costs in the notes
8 accompanying their bills; and

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10 WHEREAS, some states have adopted fiscal notes through
11 their internal legislative rules, while others have implemented
12 fiscal notes by statute; and

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14 WHEREAS, Hawaii does not require fiscal notes to accompany
15 measures throughout the legislative process, which forces
16 representatives and senators to vote on measures without knowing
17 the financial impact of their decisions; 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, that the Legislative Reference Bureau is requested to
22 conduct a study to understand the implementation process and
23 projected financial impact of adopting fiscal notes into the
24 State's legislative procedure; and

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26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study is requested to:

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28 (1) Discuss the most appropriate method of adopting fiscal
29 notes, either through statute or House Rules;
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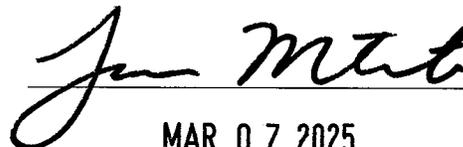


- 1 (2) Identify the necessary staff, salary, and program
2 costs required to implement fiscal notes;
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- 4 (3) Consider how best to ensure the fiscal notes are
5 publicly available like other legislative documents
6 found on the Hawaii State Legislature website;
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- 8 (4) Identify any potential barriers to implementation
9 including, but not limited to, staffing constraints,
10 costs, and technological limitations;
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- 12 (5) Examine how other states have successfully implemented
13 fiscal notes, such as Colorado, Louisiana, Minnesota,
14 and Texas, with a focus on their ability to overcome
15 any of the implementation barriers identified above;
16 and
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- 18 (6) Consider implementation through the existing Office of
19 the Legislative Analyst in HRS Section 21F-6 as
20 recommended in HB296 (2025); and
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22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Reference
23 Bureau is requested to submit a report of its findings and
24 recommendations on fiscal notes, including any proposed
25 legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior
26 to the convening of the Regular Session of 2026; and
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28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
29 Resolution be transmitted to Director of the Legislative
30 Reference Bureau.
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OFFERED BY:


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