

MAR 07 2025

SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE AIRPORTS DIVISION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF
TRANSPORTATION TO CONVENE A TASK FORCE TO EXPLORE THE
FEASIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING AND IMPLEMENTING A CORPORATION
TO MANAGE THE STATE'S AIRPORTS.

1 WHEREAS, the State's airports play a critical role in the
2 economic development, tourism industry, and overall connectivity
3 of the islands; and
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5 WHEREAS, Hawaii's airports collectively employ thousands of
6 individuals in various sectors, including airlines, operations,
7 security, maintenance, customer service, concessions, and
8 administration, making them a significant source of jobs and
9 economic activity in the State; and
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11 WHEREAS, the establishment of an airports corporation could
12 potentially centralize and streamline the management,
13 development, and operations of the State's airports under a
14 single entity; and
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16 WHEREAS, a dedicated airports corporation could improve
17 financial flexibility, accelerate infrastructure improvements,
18 enhance customer experience, and ensure long-term sustainability
19 and competitiveness of Hawaii's airport system; and
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21 WHEREAS, the State should evaluate the potential benefits,
22 challenges, and financial implications of creating an airports
23 corporation, including an assessment of governance structures,
24 funding mechanisms, operational efficiency, potential to improve
25 outcomes, and regulatory compliance; and
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27 WHEREAS, input from various stakeholders, including
28 government agencies, aviation industry experts, business
29 representatives, labor organizations, and community members, is
30 essential to developing informed recommendations for the
31 Legislature; now, therefore,
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33 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-third
34 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2025,



1 that the Airports Division of the Department of Transportation
2 is requested to convene a task force to explore the feasibility
3 of establishing and implementing an airports corporation to
4 manage the State's airports; and

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6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to
7 include the following members:

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9 (1) Representatives from the Department of Transportation;
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11 (2) The chairpersons of the respective committees of the
12 House of Representatives and Senate having
13 jurisdiction over transportation;
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15 (3) Representatives from the Hawaii Tourism Authority; and
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17 (4) Representatives from:
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19 (A) The airline industry;
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21 (B) Labor unions;
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23 (C) Airport businesses; and
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25 (D) Other relevant stakeholders; and
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27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to
28 analyze the potential advantages and disadvantages of creating
29 an airports corporation, including its impact on airport
30 operations, governance, staffing, quality of facilities and
31 sense of place, and overall effectiveness; and
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33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to
34 submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the
35 Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
36 the Regular Session of 2026; and
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38 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
39 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Director of
40 Transportation, President of the Senate, Speaker of the House of



