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## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE ETHICS COMMISSION OF EACH COUNTY TO ADOPT STANDARDS SIMILAR TO THAT APPLICABLE TO STATE ELECTED OFFICIALS AND OFFICERS AS ADOPTED AND ENFORCED BY THE STATE ETHICS COMMISSION.

WHEREAS, the primary purpose of governmental ethics laws is to improve honesty and integrity in government; and

WHEREAS, public service is a public trust and those entrusted with the power of office must first and foremost commit steadfastly to upholding the rule of law and must never presume that they are above its letter and spirit; and

WHEREAS, the perception of integrity in government is no less important than the reality of integrity in government, as regardless of how honest public officials are in fact, a democratic system of government cannot function properly if the public believes its officials are corrupt; and

WHEREAS, further efforts are necessary for elected officials and officers to restore trust in county governments; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Thirty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2025, the Senate concurring, that the ethics commission of each county are urged to adopt standards similar to that applicable to state elected officials and officers as adopted and enforced by the State Ethics Commission; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the mayor of each county, chairperson of each county council, and chairperson of the ethics commission of each county.

## H.C.R. NO. 72

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