
HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE OFFICE OF PLANNING AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT TO
CONVENE A WORKING GROUP TO EVALUATE THE ESTABLISHMENT AND
ADMINISTRATIVE PLACEMENT OF AN OFFICE OF RESILIENCE AND
RECOVERY.

1 WHEREAS, the Maui wildfires led to over one hundred
2 fatalities and nearly \$12,000,000,000 in damages; and
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4 WHEREAS, in the aftermath of the Maui wildfires, the Hawai'i
5 Climate Advisory Team was established as an advisory group to
6 propose policies that improve the State's ability to effectively
7 respond to disasters; and
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9 WHEREAS, the Climate Advisory Team recommended in its
10 January 2025 Policy Recommendations on Climate Disaster
11 Resilience, Recovery and Funding that a permanent Hawaii
12 Resilience Office be established to provide leadership and
13 coordination to improve the State's resilience and preparedness
14 for disasters; and
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16 WHEREAS, the Climate Advisory Team did not make a specific
17 recommendation regarding the placement of the Hawaii Resilience
18 Office; and
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20 WHEREAS, the Climate Advisory Team acknowledged that while
21 the temporary Hawaii Office of Recovery and Resiliency and
22 Hawaii Emergency Management Agency have elements of resilience
23 in their missions, the responsibility for resilience planning
24 and implementation should reside clearly in one department; now,
25 therefore,
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27 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
28 Thirty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
29 of 2025, that the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development
30 is requested to convene a working group to evaluate the



1 establishment and administrative placement of an Office of
2 Resilience and Recovery; and
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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested
5 to consist of the following members:
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- 7 (1) The Director of the Office of Planning and Sustainable
8 Development, or the Director's designee, who is
9 requested to serve as chairperson of the working
10 group;
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- 12 (2) The State Recovery Coordinator of the Office of the
13 Governor, or the Governor's designee;
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- 15 (3) The Attorney General, or the Attorney General's
16 designee;
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- 18 (4) The Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural
19 Resources, or the Chairperson's designee;
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- 21 (5) The Adjutant General, or the Adjutant General's
22 designee;
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- 24 (6) The State Fire Marshal, or the State Fire Marshal's
25 designee;
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- 27 (7) The Administrator of the Hawaii Emergency Management
28 Agency, or the Administrator's designee;
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- 30 (8) The Chair of the State Fire Council, or the Chair's
31 designee;
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- 33 (9) Two members of the Senate, to be appointed by the
34 President of the Senate;
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- 36 (10) Two members of the House of Representatives, to be
37 appointed by the Speaker of the House of
38 Representatives;
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- 40 (11) The Mayor of the City and County of Honolulu, or the
41 Mayor's designee;
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1 (12) The Mayor of the County of Maui, or the Mayor's
2 designee;

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4 (13) The Mayor of the County of Hawaii, or the Mayor's
5 designee;

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7 (14) The Mayor of the County of Kauai, or the Mayor's
8 designee; and

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10 (15) A representative from the American Red Cross of
11 Hawaii; and
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13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested
14 to determine the principal department within which the Office of
15 Resilience and Recovery should be established and its
16 relationship with the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency; and
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18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested
19 to submit a report of its findings and recommendations,
20 including a recommendation for the permanent administrative
21 placement of the Office of Resilience and Recovery, to the
22 Legislature by November 30, 2025; and
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24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
25 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor; Director of the
26 Office of Planning and Sustainable Development; Attorney
27 General; Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources;
28 Adjutant General; State Fire Marshal; Administrator of the
29 Hawaii Emergency Management Agency; Chair of the State Fire
30 Council; Mayors of the Counties of Maui, Hawaii, and Kauai and
31 Mayor of the City and County of Honolulu; and Regional CEO of
32 the American Red Cross, Pacific Islands Region.

