

MAR 07 2025

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE STATE LGBTQ+ COMMISSION AND THE COMMISSION ON THE
STATUS OF WOMEN TO REVIEW THE HAWAII REVISED STATUTES AND
MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR GENDER-NEUTRAL LANGUAGE
TERMINOLOGY.

1 WHEREAS, the State of Hawaii is committed to fostering
2 inclusivity, equality, and respect for all individuals,
3 regardless of gender identity or expression; and
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5 WHEREAS, many existing statutes within the Hawaii Revised
6 Statutes contain binary, gendered language that may not reflect
7 the diverse identities of Hawaii's residents; and
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9 WHEREAS, the use of gender-neutral language in legislation
10 promotes inclusivity and ensures that all individuals are
11 equally recognized and protected under state law; and
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13 WHEREAS, in 2013, the Hawaii State Legislature passed
14 marriage equality, ensuring that same-sex couples have the right
15 to marry, and the rest of the Hawaii Revised Statutes should
16 reflect this legal recognition when addressing married couples;
17 and
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19 WHEREAS, in 2019, the Hawaii State Legislature expanded
20 gender markers from the false narrative of the gender binary
21 that utilizes "F" for female and "M" for male on state
22 identification cards and driver's licenses; and
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24 WHEREAS, now, forms of state identification also include
25 the marker "X" for those who do not identify within the gender
26 binary; and
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28 WHEREAS, other jurisdictions have undertaken similar
29 efforts to modernize statutory language to be more inclusive,
30 and Hawaii should also ensure that state laws reflect the values
31 of respect and aloha for all; now, therefore,



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2 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-third
3 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2025, the
4 House of Representatives concurring, that the LGBTQ+ Commission
5 and the Commission on the Status of Women are requested to
6 collaborate and conduct a comprehensive review of the Hawaii
7 Revised Statutes and recommend amendments to incorporate gender-
8 neutral terminology; and
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10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the LGBTQ+ Commission and the
11 Commission on the Status of Women are requested to:
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- 13 (1) Draft recommended legislation to incorporate gender-
14 neutral terminology in the Hawaii Revised Statutes;
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16 (2) Draft a recommendation for bill review to ensure
17 future legislation incorporates gender-neutral
18 terminology; and
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20 (3) Submit a report of their findings and recommendations,
21 including proposed legislation containing the
22 suggested statutory amendments, to the Legislature no
23 later than twenty days prior to the convening of the
24 Regular Session of 2026; and
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26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of the Attorney
27 General is requested to assist the LGBTQ+ Commission and the
28 Commission on the Status of Women in fulfilling these endeavors;
29 and
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31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the LGBTQ+ Commission and the
32 Commission on the Status of Women are requested to engage with
33 civil rights experts that specialize in gender identity and non-
34 binary issues, such as Lambda Law Hawaii, in fulfilling these
35 endeavors; and
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37 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
38 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor;
39 Chairperson of the Hawaii State Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual,
40 Transgender, Queer Plus Commission; Chairperson of the
41 Commission on the Status of Women; and Chair of the Lambda Law



1 Hawaii student organization at the University of Hawaii's
2 William S. Richardson School of Law.

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OFFERED BY:



