

MAR 07 2025

## SENATE 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,  
32

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 LGBTQ+ Commission and the Commission on the Status of  
2 Women are requested to collaborate and conduct a comprehensive  
3 review of the Hawaii Revised Statutes and recommend amendments  
4 to incorporate gender-neutral terminology; and  
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6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the LGBTQ+ Commission and the  
7 Commission on the Status of Women are requested to:  
8

9 (1) Draft recommended legislation to incorporate gender-  
10 neutral terminology in the Hawaii Revised Statutes;  
11

12 (2) Draft a recommendation for bill review to ensure  
13 future legislation incorporates gender-neutral  
14 terminology; and  
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16 (3) Submit a report of their findings and recommendations,  
17 including proposed legislation containing the  
18 suggested statutory amendments, to the Legislature no  
19 later than twenty days prior to the convening of the  
20 Regular Session of 2026; and  
21

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of the Attorney  
23 General is requested to assist the LGBTQ+ Commission and the  
24 Commission on the Status of Women in fulfilling these endeavors;  
25 and  
26

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the LGBTQ+ Commission and the  
28 Commission on the Status of Women are requested to engage with  
29 civil rights experts that specialize in gender identity and non-  
30 binary issues, such as Lambda Law Hawaii, in fulfilling these  
31 endeavors; and  
32  
33



1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
2 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor; Chairperson of the  
3 Hawaii State Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer Plus  
4 Commission; Chairperson of the Commission on the Status of  
5 Women; and Chair of the Lambda Law Hawaii student organization  
6 at the University of Hawaii's William S. Richardson School of  
7 Law.

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9  
10 OFFERED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'C. Lu', is written over a horizontal line.