
HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE SPACE ECONOMY WORKING GROUP
TO STUDY AND DEVELOP A STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK FOR ADVANCING
HAWAII'S SPACE ECONOMY.

1 WHEREAS, the global space economy is experiencing rapid
2 growth and diversification, encompassing satellite
3 communications, earth observation, navigation services, launch
4 and reentry operations, advanced manufacturing, space
5 situational awareness, and emerging commercial space activities;
6 and
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8 WHEREAS, space-based technologies support critical
9 functions including disaster response, climate monitoring,
10 environmental management, transportation safety, agriculture,
11 telecommunications, and national and economic security; and
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13 WHEREAS, Hawaii's unique geographic location, existing
14 research institutions, skilled workforce, military and civil
15 space-related assets, and strong connections to the Pacific
16 region position the State to participate meaningfully in the
17 expanding space sector; and
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19 WHEREAS, the development of a responsible space economy in
20 Hawaii presents opportunities to diversify the State's economic
21 base, strengthen high-skilled career pathways for Hawaii
22 residents, support science and technology education, and reduce
23 economic reliance on a narrow set of industries; and
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25 WHEREAS, thoughtful planning is necessary to ensure that
26 space-related activities are aligned with Hawaii's environmental
27 stewardship values: cultural considerations, land use
28 priorities, and community interests; and
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30 WHEREAS, coordination among state agencies, academic
31 institutions, private industry, workforce development entities,
32 and community stakeholders is essential to identify



1 opportunities, avoid duplication, and establish a clear
2 strategic direction; and

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4 WHEREAS, a comprehensive assessment is needed to evaluate
5 Hawaii's existing capabilities, infrastructure, regulatory
6 environment, workforce readiness, research capacity, and
7 potential market niches within the global space economy; now,
8 therefore,

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10 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
11 Thirty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
12 of 2026, that the Director of Business, Economic Development,
13 and Tourism is requested to convene the Space Economy Working
14 Group, to study and develop a strategic framework for advancing
15 Hawaii's participation in the space economy; and

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17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested
18 to comprise the following members:

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20 (1) The Director of Business, Economic Development, and
21 Tourism, or the Director's designee, who shall serve
22 as the chairperson of the working group;
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24 (2) The President of the University of Hawaii, or the
25 President's designee;
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27 (3) The Director of Labor and Industrial Relations, or the
28 Director's designee;
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30 (4) The Executive Director of the Hawaii Technology
31 Development Corporation, or the Executive Director's
32 designee;
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34 (5) The Director of the Office of Planning and Sustainable
35 Development, or the Director's designee; and
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37 (6) Other individuals from relevant state agencies,
38 private industries, research organizations, workforce
39 development programs, Native Hawaiian organizations,
40 environmental stakeholders, and community groups
41 invited by the Chairperson to become members of the
42 working group; and



1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested
2 to examine and provide recommendations on:

- 3
- 4 (1) Existing space-related assets, capabilities, and
5 ongoing activities within the State;
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- 7 (2) Opportunities for economic diversification and high-
8 quality job creation in space-related sectors;
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- 10 (3) Workforce development, education, and training
11 pathways to prepare local residents for space and
12 advanced technology careers;
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- 14 (4) Research, innovation, and technology commercialization
15 opportunities;
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- 17 (5) Infrastructure and facility needs, including
18 communications, testing, data, and other supporting
19 systems;
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- 21 (6) Regulatory, policy, and permitting considerations
22 affecting space-related activities;
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- 24 (7) Environmental stewardship, cultural considerations,
25 and community engagement principles to guide
26 responsible development;
27
- 28 (8) Opportunities for public-private partnerships and
29 regional or international collaboration; and
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- 31 (9) Strategies to position Hawaii in niche areas such as
32 Earth observation, climate and ocean monitoring, space
33 situational awareness, small satellite operations, and
34 other sectors aligned with the State's strengths; and
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36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested
37 to submit a report of its findings and recommendations,
38 including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later
39 than twenty days prior to the Regular Session of 2027; and
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41 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
42 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor; Director of Business,



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1 Economic Development, and Tourism; President of the University
2 of Hawaii; Director of Labor and Industrial Relations; Chief
3 Executive Officer of the Hawaii Technology Development
4 Corporation; and Director of the Office of Planning and
5 Sustainable Development.

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OFFERED BY:

Kanani Sooy

MAR 12 2026

