

JAN 21 2026

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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

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RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT,  
AND TOURISM.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

1       SECTION 1. The purpose of this Act is to rename the  
2 department of business, economic development, and tourism as the  
3 department of housing, economic development, and tourism to  
4 clarify that the department's duties include the development of  
5 housing in the State and to emphasize that the department shall  
6 place greater weight on its housing policy.

7       SECTION 2. Section 26-52, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
8 amended to read as follows:

9       "**§26-52 Department heads and executive officers.** The  
10 salaries of the following state officers shall be as follows:

11       (1) The salary of the superintendent of education shall be  
12 set by the board of education. The superintendent  
13 shall be subject to an annual performance evaluation  
14 that is in alignment with other employee evaluations  
15 within the department of education and are based on  
16 outcomes determined by the board of education;



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1 provided that nothing shall prohibit the board of  
2 education from conditioning a portion of the salary on  
3 performance;

4 (2) The salary of the president of the university of  
5 Hawaii shall be set by the board of regents;

6 (3) Effective July 1, 2004, the salaries of all department  
7 heads or executive officers of the departments of  
8 accounting and general services; agriculture and  
9 biosecurity; the attorney general; budget and finance;  
10 ~~[business, economic development, and tourism;]~~  
11 commerce and consumer affairs; corrections and  
12 rehabilitation; Hawaiian home lands; health; housing,  
13 economic development, and tourism; human resources  
14 development; human services; labor and industrial  
15 relations; land and natural resources; law  
16 enforcement; taxation; and transportation shall be as  
17 last recommended by the executive salary commission.  
18 Effective July 1, 2007, and every six years  
19 thereafter, the salaries shall be as last recommended  
20 by the commission on salaries pursuant to section  
21 26-56, unless rejected by the legislature; and



1       (4) The salary of the adjutant general shall be \$85,302 a  
2       year. Effective July 1, 2007, and every six years  
3       thereafter, the salary of the adjutant general shall  
4       be as last recommended by the commission on salaries  
5       pursuant to section 26-56, unless rejected by the  
6       legislature, except that if the state salary is in  
7       conflict with the pay and allowance fixed by the  
8       tables of the regular Army or Air Force of the United  
9       States, the latter shall prevail."

10       SECTION 3. Section 26-56, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
11       amended by amending subsection (b) to read as follows:

12       "(b) The commission shall review and recommend an  
13       appropriate salary for the governor, lieutenant governor,  
14       members of the legislature, justices and judges of all state  
15       courts, administrative director of the State or an equivalent  
16       position, and department heads or executive officers and the  
17       deputies or assistants to the department heads of the  
18       departments of:

- 19       (1) Accounting and general services;  
20       (2) Agriculture and biosecurity;  
21       (3) The attorney general;



- 1 (4) Budget and finance;
- 2 (5) [~~Business, economic development, and tourism;~~
- 3 ~~(6)~~] Commerce and consumer affairs;
- 4 [~~(7)~~] (6) Corrections and rehabilitation;
- 5 [~~(8)~~] (7) Defense;
- 6 [~~(9)~~] (8) Hawaiian home lands;
- 7 [~~(10)~~] (9) Health;
- 8 (10) Housing, economic development, and tourism;
- 9 (11) Human resources development;
- 10 (12) Human services;
- 11 (13) Labor and industrial relations;
- 12 (14) Land and natural resources;
- 13 (15) Law enforcement;
- 14 (16) Taxation; and
- 15 (17) Transportation.

16 The commission shall not review the salary of any position  
17 in the department of education or the University of Hawaii.

18 The commission may recommend different salaries for  
19 department heads and executive officers and different salary  
20 ranges for deputies or assistants to department heads; provided  
21 that the commission shall recommend the same salary range for



1 deputies or assistants to department heads within the same  
2 department; provided further that the appointing official shall  
3 specify the salary for a particular position within the  
4 applicable range.

5 The commission shall not recommend salaries lower than  
6 salary amounts recommended by prior commissions replaced by this  
7 section."

8 SECTION 4. Section 194-2, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
9 amended by amending subsection (b) to read as follows:

10 "(b) The council shall be placed within the department of  
11 land and natural resources for administrative purposes only and  
12 shall be composed of:

13 (1) The president of the University of Hawaii, or the  
14 president's designated representative;

15 (2) The director, or the director's designated  
16 representative, of each of the following departments:

17 (A) ~~[Business, economic development, and tourism;~~

18 ~~(B)]~~ Health; ~~[and]~~

19 (B) Housing, economic development, and tourism; and

20 (C) Transportation; and



(3) The chairperson, or the chairperson's designated representative, of each of the following departments:

(A) Agriculture and biosecurity; and

(B) Land and natural resources."

SECTION 5. Chapter 201, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by amending its title to read as follows:

**"CHAPTER 201**

**DEPARTMENT OF [~~BUSINESS~~] HOUSING, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND  
TOURISM"**

SECTION 6. (a) Sections 10-18, 23-12, 26-4, 26-18, 27-7, 48-1, 48-2, 48-3, 48-4, 48-6, 76-16, 103D-903, 107-22, 109-1, 121-19, 125C-2, 125C-31, 132D-6, 141-3.5, 163D-3, 163D-42, 171-42, 171-95.3, 174C-5, 189-21, 189-42, 196-1, 196-10, 196-10.5, 196-41, 196-61, 196-71, 201-1, 201-2, 201-2.5, 201-3, 201-3.5, 201-4, 201-6, 201-7, 201-8, 201-9, 201-10, 201-11, 201-12.8, 201-13, 201-16, 201-17, 201-18, 201-61, 201-81, 201-84, 201-101.5, 201-111, 201B-2, 201B-7.5, 201C-1, 201C-2, 201H-2, 201M-5, 202-10, 205-1, 205-3.1, 205A-62, 206E-3, 206E-32, 206E-34, 206E-221, 206E-225, 206E-244, 206M-2, 206M-3, 206R-1, 206R-2, 206S-1, 206S-2, 209E-2, 210-1, 210-6, 210-7, 210-8, 210D-2, 210D-5, 211D-1, 211E-1, 211E-3, 212-5.5, 212-10, 213-1, 225M-1,



1 225M-2, 226-63, 227D-2, 229-2, 235-17, 235-110.91, 269-45, 269-  
2 161, 302A-1314, 304A-1892, 342G-47, 342G-48, 342G-63, 342G-64,  
3 371-17, 383-128, 394-9, 437-1.1, 445-112, 474-4, 486B-1.5, 486H-  
4 13, 486J-1, 486J-6, 486J-7, 486J-21, and 514D-17, Hawaii Revised  
5 Statutes, are amended by substituting the phrase "department of  
6 housing, economic development, and tourism", or similar term,  
7 wherever the phrase "department of business, economic  
8 development, and tourism", or similar term, appears, as the  
9 context requires.

10 (b) Sections 26-16, 26-18, 27-44, 84-18, 109-1, 125C-32,  
11 128E-2, 163D-3, 163D-42, 189-21, 189-42, 196-6.5, 196-61, 201-4,  
12 201-5, 201-11, 201-101.5, 201-102, 201-103, 201-104, 201-115,  
13 201B-13, 201C-4, 201H-2, 201H-3, 201M-5, 202-1, 206E-3, 206J-4,  
14 206M-2, 206S-4, 209-1, 209-26, 209-27, 209-29, 209-31, 209-32,  
15 209-33, 209-34, 209E-2, 210-1, 210-2, 210-4, 210-6, 210D-5,  
16 210D-10, 211E-4, 213-2, 225M-1, 225M-2, 225M-3, 225M-4, 225P-3,  
17 227D-2, 279A-4, 302A-1314, 304A-3353, 346-381.5, 346-382, and  
18 486J-1, Hawaii Revised Statutes, are amended by substituting the  
19 phrase "director of housing, economic development, and tourism",  
20 or similar term, wherever the phrase "director of business,



1 economic development, and tourism", or similar term, appears, as  
2 the context requires.

3 SECTION 7. (a) The revisor of statutes shall substitute  
4 the phrase "department of housing, economic development, and  
5 tourism", or similar term, wherever the phrase "department of  
6 business, economic development, and tourism", or similar term,  
7 appears in any Acts of the Sessions Laws of Hawaii 2026, as the  
8 context requires.

9 (b) The revisor of statutes shall substitute the phrase  
10 "director of housing, economic development, and tourism", or  
11 similar term, wherever the phrase "director of business,  
12 economic development, and tourism", or similar term, appears in  
13 any Acts of the Sessions Laws of Hawaii 2026, as the context  
14 requires.

15 SECTION 8. This Act does not affect rights and duties that  
16 matured, penalties that were incurred, and proceedings that were  
17 begun before its effective date.

18 SECTION 9. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
19 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.





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1 SECTION 10. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050.

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INTRODUCED BY: AKS



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**Report Title:**

DBEDT; Department Name; Rename; Housing

**Description:**

Renames the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism as the Department of Housing, Economic Development, and Tourism. Effective 7/1/2050.

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

