

MAR 16 2026

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# SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND LAND MANAGEMENT OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU TO DEVELOP A COUNTYWIDE HOUSING PATTERN BOOK TO STREAMLINE PERMIT APPROVALS AND REDUCE REGULATORY BARRIERS FOR SAFE, AFFORDABLE, AND WELL-DESIGNED HOMES.

1           WHEREAS, the State faces a severe housing shortage that has  
2 made homeownership and stable housing increasingly out of reach  
3 for many residents; and  
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5           WHEREAS, increasing the supply of safe, affordable, and  
6 community-compatible housing remains a statewide priority, but  
7 production is often slowed by complex permitting processes,  
8 inconsistent design standards, and regulatory barriers that add  
9 cost and delay; and  
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11           WHEREAS, thoughtfully designed housing contributes to  
12 dignity, stability, and well-being, and the quality of the built  
13 environment, including attractive homes and walkable  
14 neighborhoods, can positively affect physical and mental health  
15 and support thriving communities; and  
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17           WHEREAS, Hawaii has a rich tradition of climate-responsive  
18 architecture, including lanais, natural cross-ventilation,  
19 shading, and indoor-outdoor living elements that are well suited  
20 to local conditions and culture; and  
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22           WHEREAS, a housing pattern book containing pre-reviewed  
23 residential designs that comply with applicable codes can reduce  
24 design costs, expedite permitting, and accelerate housing  
25 production while maintaining safety, affordability, resilience,  
26 and architectural quality; and  
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1 WHEREAS, similar programs in places such as New South  
2 Wales, Australia, and Los Angeles, California, have demonstrated  
3 that pre-approved housing designs can successfully accelerate  
4 construction of accessory dwelling units and low- and mid-rise  
5 housing; now, therefore,

6  
7 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-third  
8 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2026, the  
9 House of Representatives concurring, that the Department of  
10 Housing and Land Management of the City and County of Honolulu  
11 is requested to develop a countywide housing pattern book  
12 containing pre-reviewed residential building designs that comply  
13 with applicable building codes and best practices for safety,  
14 affordability, resilience, and architectural quality; and

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16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the housing pattern book is  
17 requested to:

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19 (1) Include designs suitable for a range of housing types,  
20 including accessory dwelling units and low- and  
21 mid-rise multifamily buildings; and

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23 (2) Incorporate culturally appropriate and  
24 climate-responsive design elements that promote  
25 healthy and attractive living environments; and

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27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Housing and  
28 Land Management of the City and County of Honolulu is requested  
29 to include a design competition to attract innovative and  
30 high-quality designs for inclusion in the housing pattern book;  
31 and

32  
33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, in developing the housing  
34 pattern book, the Department of Housing and Land Management of  
35 the City and County of Honolulu is requested to collaborate with  
36 county planning departments, architects, builders,  
37 energy-efficiency experts, public health professionals, and  
38 community stakeholders; and

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40 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the housing pattern book is  
41 requested to be made publicly available; and  
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