

MAR 16 2026

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND
TOURISM TO SUBMIT AN ANNUAL HAWAII GENUINE PROGRESS
INDICATOR REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE NO LATER THAN THIRTY
DAYS PRIOR TO THE CONVENING OF EACH REGULAR SESSION,
BEGINNING WITH THE REGULAR SESSION OF 2027.

1 WHEREAS, the State recognizes that traditional economic
2 metrics, such as Gross Domestic Product, fail to capture the
3 full spectrum of social well-being, environmental
4 sustainability, and long-term economic welfare; and
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6 WHEREAS, the Hawaii Genuine Progress Indicator (HI GPI),
7 which was developed and is maintained by the Department of
8 Business, Economic Development, and Tourism, represents a more
9 holistic measure that incorporates economic, social, and
10 environmental indicators to assess the true welfare impacts of
11 economic activity in the State; and
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13 WHEREAS, the HI GPI comprises multiple indicator
14 categories, such as economic, social, and environmental, that
15 are further broken down into sub-indicators that collectively
16 quantify positive contributions and negative costs affecting
17 overall progress; and
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19 WHEREAS, the Department of Business, Economic Development,
20 and Tourism's publicly available HI GPI methodology and
21 calculation framework outline how personal consumption
22 expenditures are adjusted by social services, built capital,
23 natural capital, pollution costs, and other welfare-related
24 components; and
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26 WHEREAS, an annual HI GPI report provided to the
27 Legislature would enhance legislative understanding of Hawaii's
28 economic welfare, guide policy development, and enable evidence-



1 based decision-making rooted in broader measures of well-being;
2 now, therefore,

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4 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-third
5 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2026, the
6 House of Representatives concurring, that the Department of
7 Business, Economic Development, and Tourism is urged to submit
8 an annual Hawaii Genuine Progress Indicator (HI GPI) report to
9 the Legislature no later than thirty days prior to the convening
10 of each Regular Session, beginning with the Regular Session of
11 2027; and

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13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in its annual report, the
14 Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism is
15 urged to:

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17 (1) Provide transparent findings from the most recent HI
18 GPI analysis, including trends, changes, and insights
19 in the State's economic welfare, environmental status,
20 and social conditions as measured by the HI GPI; and
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22 (2) Include, at a minimum:
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24 (A) An executive summary that includes a clear, non-
25 technical synopsis of overall HI GPI findings,
26 major changes compared with prior years, and key
27 takeaways for policymakers;
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29 (B) Indicator results and trends for each major
30 indicator category - economic, social, and
31 environmental - that includes results and
32 interpretation of the adjusted personal
33 consumption baseline and all constituent sub-
34 indicators that contribute positively or
35 negatively to the HI GPI; social indicators
36 capturing welfare effects on households,
37 communities, human capital, public services,
38 crime, health, and other social welfare measures;
39 and environmental indicators quantifying natural
40 capital valuation, pollution costs, depletion of
41 resources, protected area services, and other
42 ecological measures;



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(C) A methodology overview that includes a concise explanation of the methodology used for calculating the HI GPI for that year, including data sources, any updates to methods, and a description of how the index balances economic output with social and environmental costs;

(D) A policy implications section that interprets how the HI GPI trends relate to existing or proposed state policies, including identification of structural factors driving changes in welfare measures and recommended policy responses grounded in the data; and

(E) A data appendix that includes tables, charts, and appendices presenting detailed annual figures for all indicators and sub-indicators used in the calculation of the HI GPI with sources; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism is urged to make the annual report available electronically on its public website and transmit copies of the report to the Chairpersons of the House of Representatives and Senate Standing Committees with primary jurisdiction over economic development, budget, and the environment; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism.

OFFERED BY: Karl Rhoads

