

---

# SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE 911 BOARD TO ESTABLISH OR UTILIZE AN APPROPRIATE  
WORKING GROUP TO ENGAGE WITH THE DISABILITY COMMUNITY TO  
ADDRESS CONTINUING ACCESS ISSUES IN THE STATE'S EMERGENCY  
AND 911 RESPONSE SYSTEMS.

1           WHEREAS, access to reliable and effective emergency  
2 response services is a critical public safety function for all  
3 residents of the State; and  
4

5           WHEREAS, individuals with disabilities, access needs, and  
6 other functional needs often face unique barriers when  
7 interacting with 911 systems, including communication  
8 limitations and challenges during emergency situations; and  
9

10          WHEREAS, testimony provided on H.B. No. 1577, H.D. 1 (2026)  
11 (H.B. No. 1577), demonstrated that advance access by emergency  
12 responders to critical medical, mobility, and communication  
13 information can improve emergency response outcomes and save  
14 lives; and  
15

16          WHEREAS, individuals with disabilities testified that  
17 providing first responders with medical, mobility, and  
18 communication information in advance allows them to understand  
19 the individuals' needs before arrival, reducing confusion,  
20 stress, and delays; and  
21

22          WHEREAS, disability advocates emphasized that  
23 person-centered emergency information promotes safety, dignity,  
24 and inclusion and ensures that emergency response systems meet  
25 individual needs; and  
26

27          WHEREAS, H.B. No. 1577 proposed the establishment of a  
28 Statewide Emergency Safety Profile System Pilot Program and  
29 convening of a working group under the 911 Board; and



1  
2 WHEREAS, the 911 Board, in its testimony on H.B. No. 1577,  
3 acknowledged the importance of enhanced emergency response  
4 systems but expressed concerns that many objectives proposed in  
5 the measure are already being achieved through existing systems  
6 and that additional statutory mandates may duplicate efforts and  
7 divert limited resources; and

8  
9 WHEREAS, the 911 Board further raised concerns regarding  
10 vendor constraints, system integration differences across  
11 counties, and privacy considerations, suggesting that  
12 flexibility is necessary to address access issues for  
13 individuals with disabilities; and

14  
15 WHEREAS, a working group established through a concurrent  
16 resolution provides a flexible and collaborative approach  
17 without imposing duplicative statutory requirements; now,  
18 therefore,

19  
20 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-third  
21 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2026, the  
22 House of Representatives concurring, that the 911 Board is  
23 requested to establish a new working group, or utilize an  
24 appropriate existing working group, to engage in continued  
25 dialogue with the disability community regarding access to  
26 emergency and 911 response systems; and

27  
28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group established  
29 or utilized by the 911 Board (working group) is requested to:

- 30  
31 (1) Identify barriers experienced by individuals with  
32 disabilities;  
33  
34 (2) Evaluate existing emergency response technologies;  
35  
36 (3) Assess privacy and cybersecurity considerations;  
37  
38 (4) Consider best practices for voluntary and secure  
39 information sharing;  
40  
41 (5) Develop recommendations to improve accessibility and  
42 outcomes; and



1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18

(6) Facilitate coordination among stakeholders; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested to include representatives from the 911 Board, public safety agencies, disability advocacy organizations, individuals with lived experience, and other stakeholders; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested to submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2027; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Executive Director of the 911 Board, Executive Director of the Disability Rights Center of Hawaii, and Executive Administrator of the Hawaii State Council on Developmental Disabilities.

