

MAR 16 2026

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

CONVENING A WORKING GROUP TO DEVELOP RECOMMENDATIONS FOR
ESTABLISHING AND STRUCTURING A NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION
RECOGNIZED BY THE STATE TO SUPPORT ARTS AND CULTURE
ENGAGEMENT AND RELATED INITIATIVES.

1 WHEREAS, the State has long served as a center for cultural
2 exchange, artistic expression, and intellectual collaboration
3 due to its unique history, cultural heritage, and geographic
4 position in the Pacific; and
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6 WHEREAS, other states have helped empower communities and
7 the people within them by establishing arts and cultural centers
8 that provide for creative residency programming for artists,
9 writers, scholars, and other creators with opportunities and
10 safe spaces to collaborate, develop new work, educate students
11 and aspiring peers, and engage with local communities; and
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13 WHEREAS, such programs frequently bring in creators at the
14 top of their industries and disciplines such as award winning
15 artists, composers, authors, and others who benefit local
16 communities through public lectures, workshops, and educational
17 programming in partnership with universities, community
18 colleges, schools, and community organizations; and
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20 WHEREAS, the State's arts and culture landscape provides an
21 appropriate setting for an arts and cultural center that
22 supports creative residencies while fostering public engagement
23 and educational programming; and
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25 WHEREAS, some of the most successful models of these kinds
26 of arts and culture centers are quasi-government nonprofit
27 organizations that supplement and support broader government-run
28 efforts and programs, as these models provide more flexibility
29 and adaptability for private fundraising, management,
30 innovation, and community engagement; now, therefore,
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1 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-third
2 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2026, the
3 House of Representatives concurring, that there is convened a
4 working group to develop recommendations for establishing and
5 structuring a nonprofit organization recognized by the State to
6 support arts and culture engagement and related initiatives; and
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8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested
9 to be chaired jointly by the Chairs of the Senate and House of
10 Representative committees with jurisdiction over arts and
11 culture; and
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13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested
14 to include a representative of the State Foundation on Culture
15 and the Arts and other members or subject matter experts, to be
16 invited by the Chairs; and
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18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Working Group is requested
19 to:
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- 21 (1) Identify successful arts and culture residency
22 nonprofit models in other jurisdictions;
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- 24 (2) Examine governance structures and partnership models
25 used by those organizations;
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- 27 (3) Develop and establish the structure, governance, and
28 operational framework of a nonprofit organization as
29 may be appropriate to provide for arts and culture
30 residencies in Hawaii to connect leading creators in
31 their fields with local counterparts, students, and
32 communities as may be most beneficial; and
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- 34 (4) Identify potential partnerships with educational
35 institutions, cultural organizations, and community
36 groups; and
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38 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested
39 to submit a report of its findings, activities, along with any
40 recommendations to the Legislature no later than twenty days
41 prior to the convening of the Regular Sessions of 2027 and 2028;
42 and



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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Executive Director of the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts; Chair of the Senate Committee on Water, Land, Culture and the Arts; and Chair of the House Committee on Culture and the Arts.

OFFERED BY:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Cew', is written over a horizontal line.