

MAR 16 2026

SENATE 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-
29 based decision-making rooted in broader measures of well-being;
30 now, therefore,



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

- 13
- 14 (1) Provide transparent findings from the most recent HI
15 GPI analysis, including trends, changes, and insights
16 in the State's economic welfare, environmental status,
17 and social conditions as measured by the HI GPI; and
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 - 19 (2) Include, at a minimum:
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 - 21 (A) An executive summary that includes a clear, non-
22 technical synopsis of overall HI GPI findings,
23 major changes compared with prior years, and key
24 takeaways for policymakers;
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 - 26 (B) Indicator results and trends for each major
27 indicator category - economic, social, and
28 environmental - that includes results and
29 interpretation of the adjusted personal
30 consumption baseline and all constituent sub-
31 indicators that contribute positively or
32 negatively to the HI GPI; social indicators
33 capturing welfare effects on households,
34 communities, human capital, public services,
35 crime, health, and other social welfare measures;
36 and environmental indicators quantifying natural
37 capital valuation, pollution costs, depletion of
38 resources, protected area services, and other
39 ecological measures;
40
 - 41 (C) A methodology overview that includes a concise
42 explanation of the methodology used for



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1 calculating the HI GPI for that year, including
2 data sources, any updates to methods, and a
3 description of how the index balances economic
4 output with social and environmental costs;
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6 (D) A policy implications section that interprets how
7 the HI GPI trends relate to existing or proposed
8 state policies, including identification of
9 structural factors driving changes in welfare
10 measures and recommended policy responses
11 grounded in the data; and
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13 (E) A data appendix that includes tables, charts, and
14 appendices presenting detailed annual figures for
15 all indicators and sub-indicators used in the
16 calculation of the HI GPI with sources; and
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18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Business,
19 Economic Development, and Tourism is urged to make the annual
20 report available electronically on its public website and
21 transmit copies of the report to the Chairpersons of the House
22 of Representatives and Senate Standing Committees with primary
23 jurisdiction over economic development, budget, and the
24 environment; and
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26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this
27 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Business, Economic
28 Development, and Tourism.
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OFFERED BY: Karl Rhoads

