

MAR 10 2026

SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DIRECTOR OF HEALTH TO CONVENE A WATER
FLUORIDATION WORKING GROUP.

1 WHEREAS, many residents in the State do not have dental
2 care insurance; and

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4 WHEREAS, the State also received a failing grade in three
5 recent oral health report cards published by the Pew Center on
6 the States, a division of the Pew Charitable Trusts; and

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8 WHEREAS, increasing the concentration of fluoride, a
9 naturally occurring mineral, in the public water supply to an
10 optimal level benefits all people who drink from it, promoting
11 good oral health to prevent or even reverse tooth decay; and

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13 WHEREAS, according to the federal Centers for Disease
14 Control and Prevention, water fluoridation is both safe and the
15 most cost-effective way of preventing tooth decay; and

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17 WHEREAS, presently, the State's public water systems, other
18 than those serving military bases have no added fluoride; and

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20 WHEREAS, water fluoridation may address ongoing oral health
21 issues across the State by providing communities with enough
22 fluoride in local water systems to prevent tooth decay; now,
23 therefore,

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25 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-third
26 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2026,
27 that the Director of Health is requested to convene a Water
28 Fluoridation Working Group to collaborate on determining the
29 best practices for, and addressing obstacles to, fluoridating
30 the State's drinking water; and

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32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Water Fluoridation Working
33 Group is requested to consist of the following members:

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35 (1) The Director of Health, or the Director's designee,
36 who shall serve as Chairperson of the Working Group;



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- 1 (2) A representative from the Board of Water Supply of the
- 2 City and County of Honolulu;
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- 4 (3) A representative from the Department of Water of the
- 5 County of Kauai;
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- 7 (4) A representative from the Department of Water Supply
- 8 of the County of Maui; and
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- 10 (5) A representative from the Department of Water Supply
- 11 of the County of Hawaii; and
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13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Water Fluoridation Working
14 Group is requested to submit a report of its findings and
15 recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the
16 Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
17 the Regular Session of 2027; and

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19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Water Fluoridation Working
20 Group is requested to dissolve on June 30, 2027; and

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22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
23 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Health, Manager and
24 Chief Engineer of the Board of Water Supply of the City and
25 County of Honolulu, Director of the Department of Water Supply
26 of the County of Maui, Manager-Chief Engineer of the Department
27 of Water Supply of the County of Hawaii, and Manager and Chief
28 Engineer of the Department of Water of the County of Kauai.

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OFFERED BY: 

