
HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING A TASK FORCE TO DETERMINE AND REPORT THE COST OF
FUNDING A CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION IN THE STATE OF HAWAII.

1 WHEREAS, in 2008, a question will be placed on the general
2 election ballot asking voters whether a Constitutional
3 Convention should be held to amend the Constitution of the State
4 of Hawaii (Hawaii Constitution); and
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6 WHEREAS, the last Constitutional Convention occurred in
7 1978, at which time the public was provided a forum to discuss
8 and recommend possible amendments to the Hawaii Constitution;
9 and
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11 WHEREAS, the question of whether to hold a Constitutional
12 Convention was last submitted to the electorate in 1998, and the
13 voters answered "no"; and
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15 WHEREAS, a Constitutional Convention is a major investment
16 of both time and money for the State and should not be voted for
17 lightly; and
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19 WHEREAS, the cost of holding a Constitutional Convention is
20 currently undetermined, and knowledge of the estimated cost
21 would help voters determine the worthiness of using funds for
22 such an undertaking; and
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24 WHEREAS, in an effort to educate voters before they vote on
25 this important question, this body finds that providing
26 information, such as the estimated cost of holding a
27 Constitutional Convention, will promote well-informed decisions
28 when citizens cast their ballots prior to or on Election Day
29 2008; now, therefore,



1 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
2 Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
3 Session of 2008, that a Constitutional Convention Cost Task
4 Force (Task Force) be established to determine the cost of
5 holding a Constitutional Convention, to examine ways to reduce
6 such costs, and to report its findings; and
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8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Task Force shall consist of
9 the following nine members, who each have one vote:
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- 11 (1) The Comptroller, or the Comptroller's designee;
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- 13 (2) The executive director of the Campaign Spending
14 Commission, or the executive director's designee;
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- 16 (3) The Chief Elections Officer, or the Chief Elections
17 Officer's designee;
- 18
- 19 (4) The Director of Finance, or the director's designee;
- 20
- 21 (5) One senator appointed by the President of the Senate,
22 and one senator appointed by the Senate Minority
23 Leader;
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- 25 (6) One representative appointed by the Speaker of the
26 House of Representatives (House), and one
27 representative appointed by the House Minority Leader;
28 and
- 29
- 30 (7) The president of the League of Women Voters of Hawaii,
31 or the president's designee;
- 32

33 and
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35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of the Task Force
36 shall select a chairperson from among themselves; and
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38 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that four members of the Task Force
39 shall constitute a quorum to conduct business; and
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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that an affirmative vote by a
2 majority of the members present and voting at a meeting at which
3 quorum exists shall be necessary to validate any action of the
4 Task Force; and

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6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Attorney General, or the
7 Attorney General's designee, shall serve in an ex officio
8 capacity as an advisor to--but not as a voting member of--the
9 Task Force; and

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11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Task Force shall have 90
12 working days, beginning on May 2, 2008, to:

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- 14 (1) Determine the cost of holding a Constitutional
- 15 Convention; and
- 16
- 17 (2) Submit a report to the President of the Senate,
- 18 Speaker of the House, and Governor so that voters will
- 19 be able to make a well-informed decision on or before
- 20 November 4, 2008, about whether to hold a
- 21 Constitutional Convention;
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23 and

24
25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Task Force will cease to
26 exist on November 5, 2008; and

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28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
29 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Comptroller, Director
30 of Finance, Attorney General, Chief Elections Officer, executive
31 director of the Campaign Spending Commission, and president of
32 the League of Women Voters of Hawaii.

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35 OFFERED BY: Debra A. Belatti

Barbara Morimoto
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