

**RESOLUTIONS 101**  
**NOVEMBER 13, 2021**

1. The Oxford dictionary defines resolution as a (1) firm decision to do or not to do something, and (2) the quality of being determined or resolute.
2. In the digital world, resolution refers to the number of pixels which determine the quality and definition of digital artwork.

In the business world, there are corporate resolutions, and in government there are resolutions, joint resolutions (such as Congress declaring war), and concurrent resolutions.

Corporate resolutions are required whenever the board of directors makes a major decision (such as purchasing real estate or opening bank accounts). The resolution acts as a written record of the decision and is stored with other business documents. These board resolutions are binding on the company.

In Hawaii's legislature, a resolution is legislation introduced in either the House of Representatives or the Senate or both. A resolution expresses sentiment of an issue, and it can assist in moving your issue forward. SR is Senate resolution; HR is House resolution; SCR is Senate Concurrent Resolution; and HCR is House Concurrent Resolution. Concurrent resolutions are worded exactly the same as a SR or HR, and they are used to give the issue a better chance of passing.

Other important notes:

1. Like bills introduced, resolutions get assigned to a committee(s) to be heard, and they need to be adopted on the floor by the chamber.
2. Resolutions do not become law.
3. If a resolution/concurrent resolution gets passed by the Hawaii legislature, it does not get sent to the Governor like how a bill does but rather to the agencies, departments, and those cited in the resolution.
4. Unlike bills, they do not carry over to the next year.
5. Bills that are dead can often become resolutions in order that the issue can remain subject for discussion.

## HOW TO WRITE A RESOLUTION GUIDELINES

(TAKEN FROM THE NFRW SEPTEMBER 2021 CONFERENCE PROGRAM)

FORMAT: A resolution has a title and is divided into a preamble and a “resolved” portion.

TITLE EXAMPLE: *Opposing Critical Race Theory Curriculum in America’s K-12 Schools*

PREAMBLE: Each fact or explanation is a separate paragraph, and the preamble contains NO periods. Each paragraph begins with the word “Whereas” followed by a comma and a capital letter for the next word. The paragraph ends with a semicolon. The word “and” appears only one time – directly before the final “Whereas.”

Example:

Whereas, The ;  
Whereas, It ; and  
Whereas, The ;

*WHEREAS, In Critical Race Theory, the Marxist theory of economic class is replaced with race and divides Americans into groups of “oppressors” and “victims” based on their skin color;*

RESOLVED PORTION:

Do not insert the words “Therefore be it.” Simply start a new paragraph with “Resolved, That” and state the action to be taken. Typically, there is only one “Resolved,” but if there is more than one, end the first with a semicolon. Only one “and” is used, prior to the final “Resolved.” End the final “Resolved” with a period.

Example:

Whereas, The ;  
Whereas, It ; and  
Whereas, The ;

*Resolved, That the National Federation of Republican Women supports federal legislation to prohibit federal funds from being used to promote or teach Critical Race Theory, including the factually inaccurate New York Times “1619 Project” which reframes U.S. history with racism as the core of the American experience rather than our nation’s advances to independence, freedom and equal opportunity; and*

## MISCELLANEOUS:

When submitting a resolution for introduction at either the Hawaii legislature or the Hawaii Republican Party's platform committee, to help the legislative staff and platform committee members with research on your issue, using links to websites with your factual information will be very helpful.

Once a Republican legislator agrees to introducing your resolution, it is highly likely it will be revised by a staff member.