

Inventory of Records
of the
Hawai'i State Commission
on the
Status of Women

Hawaii State Archives
June 2001

HAWAI'I STATE COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

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HAWAI'I STATE COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

INTRODUCTION

The Hawai'i State Commission on the Status of Women administers statutes relating to the status of women as mandated in Chapter 367 of the *Hawai'i Revised Statutes*. The Hawai'i State Archives holds the agenda and minutes of this commission from 1971 to 1990. The records of the Hawai'i State Commission on the Status of Women are available for research and duplication.

ADMINISTRATIVE HISTORY

Established:

The Governor's Commission on the Status of Women was established by gubernatorial executive order on May 15, 1964. The Fifth Legislature of the State of Hawai'i in 1970 passed Senate Bill No. 174 - a bill for an act establishing a state commission and county committees on the status of women. On July 2, 1970, Governor John A. Burns signed into law Act 190 creating the Hawai'i State Commission on the Status of Women (HSCSW) to be a statewide organization concerned with improving the lives of women in Hawai'i. This same act created County Committees on the Status of Women to look into county issues regarding women. For administrative purposes, the state commission was attached to the Department of Budget and Finance. Act 302 passed by the Tenth State Legislature in 1980 transferred the commission to the Department of Social Services and Housing. In 1987 the department's name was changed to the Department of Human Services. Act 151 passed by the Eighteenth State Legislature in 1995 mandated that the lieutenant governor assume administrative responsibility for the commission.

The commission consists of 13 members to include ex-officio members who are representatives of the superintendent of education, president of the University of Hawai'i, director of Labor and Industrial Relations, director of Human Resources Development, director of Human Services, and director of Health. The remaining members are appointed by the governor. The commission appoints an executive director for the administration and enforcement of statutes relating to the status of women as mandated in Chapter 367 of the *Hawai'i Revised Statutes*.

Functions:

By legislating a permanent statewide program on the status of women in 1970, the Fifth Legislature recognized the need to continue the work of the Governor's Commission on the Status of Women. Act 190 authorized the state commission to aid in the implementation of recommendations made by the Governor's commission to improve the status of women. Additionally, the commission is charged to develop long range

goals, coordinate research planning, programming, and action on the opportunities, needs, problems, and acknowledge contributions made by women.

The mandated powers and duties of the commission are to act as a central clearinghouse and coordinating body for governmental and community activities relating to the status of women; create public awareness and understanding of the responsibilities, needs, potentials, and contributions of women; recommend legislative and administrative action on equal treatment and opportunities for women; encourage a long range program of education of women in their political rights and responsibilities, particularly with voting; maintain contacts with appropriate federal, state, local, and international agencies concerned with the status of women; cooperate and collaborate with national groups on the status of women and arranged for participation by representatives of the state in White House conferences and other national conferences; administer allocated funds; and submit an annual report with recommendations to the governor and the legislature.

References:

Session Laws of Hawai'i, 1970. Act 190 ... Establishing a State Commission and County Committees on the Status of Women.

Session Laws of Hawai'i, 1972. Act 162 ... Relating to the Commission on the Status of Women.

Session Laws of Hawai'i, 1980. Act 302 ... Relating to the Transfer of Programs and Organizational Segments in State Government.

Session Laws of Hawai'i, 1984. Act 74 ... Relating to the Status of Women.

Session Laws of Hawai'i, 1987. Act 339 ... Relating to the Department of Human Services.

Session Laws of Hawai'i, 1991. Act 46 ... Relating to the State Commission on the Status of Women.

Session Laws of Hawai'i, 1994. Act 56 ... Relating to the Department of Personnel.

Session Laws of Hawai'i, 1995. Act 151 ... Relating to the Commission on the Status of Women.

Session Laws of Hawai'i, 1998. Act 74 ... Relating to the State Commission on the Status of Women.

Hawai'i Revised Statutes, 1993 Replacement Volume 7. Title 20 - Social Services, Chapter 367 - Status of Women.

Hawai'i State Commission on the Status of Women

Series No. 472

Series Title: Agenda and Minutes of the Hawai'i State
Commission on the Status of Women

Date Range: 1971 - 1990.

Quantity: 0.83 cubic foot in two 5-inch Hollinger boxes.

Creator: Hawai'i State Commission on the Status of Women.

Physical Characteristics: Typewritten documents and mimeographs in good condition.

Content Description: Contains agenda and minutes of the regular and executive committee meetings of the Commission. Ten public meetings were held annually. Executive committee meeting agenda and minutes from 1971 to 1974 are filed separately from those of public meetings, but are interfiled for the years 1975 to 1990. Issues discussed include: affirmative action, child care, child care tax credit, continuing education for women, equal employment opportunities, the Equal Rights Amendment, family leave legislation, job sharing, pregnancy related discrimination, public employee health fund, sex discrimination, sponsoring workshops on various issues affecting women, vocational education, and planning activities for Women's History Month. Also discussed were health and social issues affecting women such as breast cancer, domestic violence awareness, family planning services, heart attacks, pornography, rape statutes, reproductive freedom, sale of prophylactics in vending machines, and women's athletics. Reports from the County Committees from Hawai'i, Honolulu, Kaua'i, and Maui are included in the minutes.

Arrangement: Chronological.

Access: No restrictions.

Hawai'i State Commission on the Status of Women

RECORDS CONTAINER LIST

Series 472 - Agenda and Minutes of the Hawai'i State Commission on the Status of Women

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472-1-5	Agenda and Minutes, 1974.
472-1-6	Agenda and Minutes, 1975 - 1976.
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472-1-8	Agenda and Minutes, 1979 - 1980.
472-2-1	Agenda and Minutes, 1981 - 1982.
472-2-2	Agenda and Minutes, 1983.
472-2-3	Agenda and Minutes, 1984.
472-2-4	Agenda and Minutes, 1985.
472-2-5	Agenda and Minutes, 1986.
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