Date Established: The Commission on the Year 2000 was established by Act 96, Session Laws of Hawaii 1970, which was signed by Gov. John A. Burns on June 16, 1970. The first commissioners were sworn in on March 23, 1971.

Duties: As stated in its enabling legislation, Act 96, Session Laws of Hawaii 1970 (Hawaii Revised Statutes Chapter 221), the duties of the Commission on the Year 2000 were to:

1) Study the effects and changes produced by scientific and technological achievements and social changes with respect to the economic, political, cultural and social systems and the environment of the State of Hawaii and the world;

2) Assess the future of Hawaii, including identification of economic, political, cultural, social and environmental goals of the State;

3) Devise and recommend legislative and administrative action for the accomplishment of the State's economic, political, cultural, social and environmental goals;

4) Assist and coordinate the plans, programs, and activities of individuals, associations, corporations, and agencies, whether public or private concerned with the future of Hawaii;

5) Stimulate and promote awareness of scientific, technological, and social system changes and their effect on Hawaii's economic, political, cultural, and social systems and environment;

6) Through its chairman administer funds allocated to the commission; and accept, disburse, and allocate funds which may become available from other governmental and private sources; provided that all such funds shall be disbursed or allocated in compliance with any specific designation stated by the donor, and in the absence of such designation, such funds shall be disbursed or allocated for the promotion and furtherance of the purpose of this chapter.

7) Submit an annual report with recommendations to the governor and legislature prior to January 1 of each year. The second annual report shall include recommendations as to the continuing responsibility and role which the State should assume in preparing for Hawaii’s future and as to organization and administrative arrangements which should be provided for in law and otherwise.
Structure of the Commission

The Commission on the Year 2000 was composed of nine members appointed and removed by the governor.

The governor appointed the chairman of the commission from among its members. During the tenure of the commission, the chairmen were George Chaplin, Gerald A. Sumida and Francis S. Oda.

The members of the commission served without compensation but were reimbursed for travel and other necessary expenses.

Act 96, Session Laws of Hawaii 1970, directed the University of Hawaii to render such assistance and research services as the Commission on the Year 2000 required.

In 1971, Kunio Nagoshi, then head of the Center for Governmental Development at the University of Hawaii's College of Continuing Education and Community Services, became the first staff director of the commission, with the center providing staff services.

Daniel Weaver was hired as Executive Director of the commission, on a contractual basis, on September 15, 1972.

Act 171, Session Laws of Hawaii 1973, amended the statute concerning the commission to state that:

"The commission may, with the consent of the Governor and not subject to chapters 76 and 77, appoint a program director and such other staff as may be necessary for the purpose of this chapter."

Mrs. Doreen Leland was hired as program director of the commission in November 1974 and continued to serve in that position until the commission was terminated on June 30, 1981.


Act 302, Session Laws of Hawaii 1980, amended the law by placing the commission within the Department of Planning and Economic Development for administrative purposes.

Methods

The commission used techniques such as task forces, field studies, advisory groups, communications through high school and college courses and television, and co-sponsorship of programs with other governmental and private groups in implementing its programs.

Date Terminated: The Commission on the Year 2000 terminated its activities on June 30, 1981, due to a lack of funding.
Administrative Matters

- Accomplishments & Events
- Assessment of Goals and Program Possibilities (1975)
- Commission Members (1975 - 1981)
- Commission's Statutory Basis
- Commission Theme (1976)
- Contributions to Commission: Procedure (1975)
- Criteria for Programs (1976)
- Membership Criteria

Correspondences

- General Correspondences (5) (March 1971 - May 1976)
- Response Letters (filed chronologically) (July 1977 - January 1979)
- Corres.: Doreen Leland (Program Director) (1976 - Sept. 1980) (3)
- Corres.: Gerald Sumida (Commission Member) (1971 - 1975) (2)
- Corres.: Gerald Sumida (Commission Chairman) (1976 - 1979) (2)

1971-1976 Minutes: 1971 - 1981 (10) Note: There are no minutes for the year 1974

1977-1981

Projects and Program Proposals

- Clearinghouse (1972)
- Commission Brochure
- Communication in Hawaii (1977)
- Constitutional Convention Project (1977)
- Directory of Future (1977)
- EMBER (Science and Human Values, Inc.) (1976 - 1978)
- Futures Education Teachers Workshops (1979)
- Futures Game: "Plan for Implementing a Futures Game for the Commission on the Year 2000" (1978)
- Futures Game: "Feasibility Study for Futures Games for Decision Makers" (1977)
- Futures Game: "Hawaii Futures Game Project"
- Genetics Workshop (Proceedings) (1978)
- Goal Setting Workshop (1976) (3)
- Hawaii 2000 Project (1972)
- Legislative Foresight Workshop (1979)
- March/April 1977 Statewide Meetings (1977)
- PAAC Joint Venture: Futures Education Program (1976-77) (2)
- Program Proposal (1971)
- Program Proposals and Reports (Jan. 1975)
- Proposed Program 1978/79 - 1979/80
- Proposal for a 1980 Governor's Conference on the Year 2020 (1979)
- Sadie Exhibit (1974 - 1975) (2)
- School Project (1972 - June 1974) (2)
- School Project (1974 - 1975)
Projects and Program Proposals

- School Project: Experimental Communities; Schools (1974–75)
- School Project: Experimental Communities, Phase II (1974–75)
- "Spaceship Earth – Canoe Hawaii" (1977)
- Speakers Bureau (1974–75)
- Robert Theobald: Consultant to Commission (3)
- Voyages Into Ocean Space (1976–77)

Reports

- Reports (1971–72)
- Reports Requested by the Governor