



Data Sharing and Governance Working Group (DSGWG) Meeting

August 28, 2026, 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

1151 Punchbowl Street, Conference Room 410, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

This meeting will be conducted remotely. Members of the public may participate via interactive conference technology (ICT) or in person at the physical meeting location indicated above.

[Join the meeting](#)

Or call in (audio only) +1 808-829-4853,,553560262#

Meeting ID: 260 227 886 871 732 Phone Conference ID: 505 691 035#

Passcode: Bb3RX3JZ

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order; Roll Call
- II. Review and Approval of the July 22, 2026, Meeting Minutes
- III. Public Testimony

Individuals who are unable to provide testimony at this time will be allowed an opportunity to testify when specific agenda items are called.

In accordance with Hawaii Revised Statutes, Section 92-3, and the Committee's prior vote on November 20, 2025, testimony will be limited to three (3) minutes per speaker per agenda item, at the discretion of the Chair to modify this limit at any given meeting.

Individuals may provide oral testimony at the meeting or may submit written testimony in advance of the meeting via e-mail to ets@hawaii.gov, or via mail addressed to 1151 Punchbowl Street, B-10, Honolulu, HI, 96813, Subject: *DSGWG Testimony*.

- IV. Chair's Remarks
 - a. Act 154 (2025), S.B. 742, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, C.D. 1, relating to data sharing directs the Data Sharing and Governance Working group to select members for and convene one or more advisory groups to solicit input from a diverse range of stakeholders, including: (1) Students and parents; (2) Labor and workforce organizations; (3) Business and industry representatives; (4) Equity and social justice organizations; (5) Researchers and privacy experts; and (6) Early education experts, school districts, and charter schools. The Chair will present a list of proposed stakeholders and request additions or changes to the list. The working group will be asked to approve the list of stakeholders.
 - b. The Chair will report on the willingness and availability of working group member Llasmin Chaine to assist in convening advisory group meetings, facilitated by Thomas Lee from the Hawaii Data Collaborative and facilitator Melissa Pavlicek

on the following proposed dates: September 9 and September 16 at 12 pm, 2 pm or 4 pm. The Chair will also discuss the proposed format of the meetings which is to be conducted virtually in a non-public focus group, interview format. The working group will discuss and approve the proposed format, meeting dates, and times.

- c. The Chair will present milestones toward report completion report, updated to reflect the addition of the advisory group meetings in September. A draft is provided in the meeting packet which includes the proposed two (2) focus group meetings. The working group will be asked to review the milestones, make recommendations to adjust the milestones if necessary, and approve revisions, if any.
- V. Review information gathered to address tasks identified in Act 154 (2025), S.B. 742, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, C.D. 1, relating to data sharing: to address Hawaii's affordability crisis and population decline by improving cross-agency data sharing and governance. The goal is to enable better-informed policymaking, especially around education, employment, and economic development.
- a. Data Exchange Partnership. Thomas Lee from the Hawaii Data Collaborative will report on additional information gathered on the data exchange partnership's ability to address gaps in data collection, including high school to workforce data, federal employment data, and self-employment data. Working group members will discuss and decide whether the information provided to date is sufficient or whether additional information is needed.
 - b. Existing Barriers to Seamless Data Sharing
 - i. Thomas Lee from the Hawaii Data Collaborative will provide a report on the collection of information from interviewing working group members.
 - ii. Facilitator Melissa Pavlicek will provide a report on the remaining interviews to be scheduled and conducted.
 - iii. Working group members will be asked to discuss and decide whether the information provided to date is sufficient or whether additional interviews should be conducted.
 - c. Relevant Strategic Plans. Facilitator Melissa Pavlicek will provide a brief update on the effort to gather plans that will be reviewed to ensure alignment between existing data-sharing efforts and relevant strategic plans from state and county governments, including the public education system, University of Hawaii, and workforce development council. A more complete report will be provided by working group member Bennette Misalucha and the Learn, Work, Thrive Hui at the October 2026, meeting.
 - d. Unemployment Record Systems. The working group will defer discussion about the process for assessing the ability for unemployment compensation wage record systems to include occupation, pay rate, and work location, pending the completion of interviews with the Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

- e. Gaps in Resources and Personnel. The working group will discuss and decide whether additional work is needed to gather information about gaps in resources and personnel or whether the information collected in the interviews performed by Thomas Lee from the Hawaii Data Collaborative is sufficient to respond to the need for identifying gaps in resources and personnel.
 - f. Technology Upgrades. Thomas Lee from the Hawaii Data Collaborative will respond to questions regarding technology upgrades from the working group.
- VI. Good of the Order
- a. Announcements
 - b. Next Meeting: Approve the next meeting date of October 12, 2026, at 10:00 a.m.
- VII. Adjournment

This interactive conference technology meeting will allow participants to enable live closed captioning during the meeting.

Auxiliary Aid or Accommodation Due to a Disability

If you require an auxiliary aid/service or other accommodation due to a disability, contact Joanna Lee or Lisa Huang at (808) 586-6000 or email ets@hawaii.gov as soon as possible. Requests made as early as possible have a greater likelihood of being fulfilled. Upon request, this notice is available in alternate/accessible formats.



Data Sharing and Governance Working Group
July 22, 2026, Meeting Minutes
Remote Meeting via Interactive Conference Technology
1151 Punchbowl Street, Conference Rm. 410, Honolulu, HI

Meeting was held via Microsoft Teams (videoconference interactive conferencing technology). Physical location: 1151 Punchbowl Street, Conference Room 410, Honolulu, Hawai'i

Members Present

Christine Sakuda, Chair, CIO, Office of Enterprise Technology Services (ETS)
Christen Tang, UI Program Specialist IV, Department of Land and Industrial Relations (DLIR)
Dr. Remy Pages, Executive Office on Early Learning
Mark Choi, Enterprise Officer, Department of Human Services (DHS)
Llasmín Chaine, Hawaii Commission on the Status of Women
Mai Nguyen Van, Judiciary
Sandra Furuto, University of Hawaii
Arthur Buto, Office of Planning and Sustainable Development
James Tokioka, Director, Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT)
Derek Vale, CDO & Data Modernization Director, Department of Health (DOH)
David Sun-Miyashiro, HawaiiKidsCAN
Elizabeth Higashi, Assistant Superintendent, Department of Education (DOE)
Stephen Schatz, Hawaii P-20 Partnerships for Education

Members Excused

David Hijirida, ProService Hawaii
Ed Sniffen, Director, Department of Transportation (DOT)
Bennette Misalucha, Workforce Development Council

Other Attendees

Melissa Pavlicek
ETS: Joanna Lee, Lisa Huang, Rebecca Cai, Kathleen Lee
Candace Park, Deputy Attorney General
Cindy Ng, DLIR
Thomas Lee, Hawaii Data Collaborative
Sharde Freitas, Office of Hawaiian Affairs
Peter Fritz
Keith Coronel

I. Call to Order; Roll Call

Roll call was taken. With quorum, the meeting was called to order at 11:05 a.m.

II. Review and Approval of the March 26, 2026, Meeting Minutes

Chair Sakuda noted a correction: the minutes and agenda should both correctly reflect that the meeting was held on “May 26” and not “March 26.” Chair Sakuda requested any public testifiers to identify themselves. There were none. A motion was made by Working Group member James Tokioka, seconded by Working Group member Mai Nguyen, to approve the minutes as corrected. The Working Group unanimously approved the motion.

III. Public Testimony

Chair Sakuda asked if there was any additional testimony. She acknowledged that written testimony had been received from Mr. Peter Fritz, identifying issues related to the accessibility of the Working Group materials. Chair Sakuda said that the Working Group would work to improve accessibility of materials for future meetings.

Mr. Fritz provided verbal testimony, stating that he used a screen reader and explained that a heading is like a chapter in a book. For a screen reader, he said, documents without headers cause the information to run together. A document with heading tags list is like a book with chapters. He pointed out that the board meeting materials were 61 pages long, but only two of the documents had heading structures. Headers were not added to the agenda. He said that he can note that it is not a policy problem, but a routine check. Preparing a document afterwards does not reliably add the heading. He asked that headings be applied before they are finalized. Chair Sakuda thanked Mr. Fritz and said she appreciated the feedback.

No other testimony was presented.

IV. Chair’s Remarks

- a. The Chair will present milestones toward report completion. A draft is provided in the meeting packet. The working group will be asked to review the milestones, make recommendations to adjust the milestones if necessary, and approve revisions, if any.

There was no public testimony on Agenda Item IV.

Chair Sakuda said that the major updates were that major milestones have been met as the Working Group gets closer to the end of the calendar year. She encouraged the Working Group to engage by asking questions and commenting during the meeting.

- V. Review information gathered to address tasks identified in Act 154 (2025), S.B. 742, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, C.D. 1, relating to data sharing: to address Hawaii’s affordability crisis and population decline by improving cross-agency data sharing and governance. The goal is to enable better-informed policymaking, especially around education, employment, and economic development.

No public testimony was presented.

- a. **Data Exchange Partnership.** A discussion will be deferred to the August 20 meeting about the data exchange partnership’s ability to address gaps in data collection, including high school to workforce data, federal employment data, and self-employment data.

Working Group Facilitator stated that agenda items that are deferred are noted because those items refer to requests in the legislation that formed the Working Group. The structure of the legislation has been maintained in the agenda. Stephen Schatz reported on this agenda item in a prior meeting.

b. Existing Barriers to Seamless Data Sharing.

Facilitator Pavlicek reported that due to the accessibility issues of the report, she asked Dr. Thomas Lee from the Hawaii Data Collaborative to speak to all of the items in the report.

Ms. Pavlicek noted the dates of the next meeting and the milestone had been brought up on the screen. She said that the July 22 meeting, today, was noted for review of strategies to address in the legislation.

Dr. Thomas Lee acknowledged the accessibility comments, and his plan was to verbally report on the materials. He said that interviews had been conducted with Mary Alice Evans from the Office of Sustainability and Joan Delos Santos. He said interviews will be conducted over the next month so that a report can be presented to the Working Group in the coming months.

- i. Chair Sakuda will present the interview questions followed by a discussion of the Working Group members.

Dr. Lee verbally reported on the Survey Questions. He said that the Working Group will gain an understanding of the current state of data sharing and governance as requested by the legislation through the responses to the survey questions.

The questions are grouped into themes.

The first theme is: Data Exchange Partnership Gaps. This theme has three questions:

1. What are the most significant gaps in data your department currently experiences; data you need but cannot access, or cannot effectively share?
2. Can your department track individuals as they transition between agencies (e.g., K–12 to workforce)? If not, what prevents this?
3. What data on self-employment or gig economy workers does your department collect or use, and how adequate is it for policy purposes?

The second theme is: Barriers and Strategic Alignment. This theme has four questions:

1. What are the biggest barriers to sharing data with other state agencies? Legal/privacy, technical, cultural, or resource-related?
2. Share a use case where data sharing proved challenging. What happened and what would have needed to be different?
3. How well does your department's data sharing strategy align with your agency's broader strategic plan? Are there areas of misalignment?
4. How aware is your department of data-sharing priorities at partner agencies (e.g., UH, WDC)? Do you collaborate formally or informally?

The third theme is: Wages, Resources & Technology. This theme has four questions:

1. How does your department use unemployment compensation wage record data, and what remains unanswerable due to gaps?
2. If wage records included occupation, pay rate, and work location, how would that change your department's capabilities?

3. What is your department's capacity to fulfill data collection and sharing responsibilities? Where are the most significant staffing or budget gaps?
4. What technology limitations most frequently prevent data sharing? What modernization investments would have the greatest impact?

The Governance Structure also has three themes:

The first theme, Coordination & Governance, has two questions:

1. Which agency or office is best positioned to serve as the central coordinating body for statewide data sharing, and why?
2. How should data-sharing protocols be developed: top-down, collaboratively, or some combination? What has worked or not worked in past efforts?

The second theme, Framework & Research, has two questions:

1. What principles should guide a statewide data management framework, both for current management and future improvements?
2. Beyond policymakers, what stakeholders should have access to data insights, and in what form? How do you balance openness with privacy?

The third theme, Dashboards, AI & Feedback, has four questions:

1. What would make your department's data outputs more useful and actionable for policymakers and the public?
2. What data from your department would be most valuable on a public-facing dashboard? Are there privacy or sensitivity concerns to manage?
3. Is your department using or exploring AI in data work? What governance guardrails are in place, and what principles should guide AI use statewide?
4. What feedback mechanisms would you recommend for a statewide data governance system, particularly to capture input from underrepresented communities?

Dr. Lee noted that given the limited time with Working Group members, this set of questions represents the best effort to collect information. Chair Sakuda thanked Dr. Lee for his work.

Working Group Member Llasmin Chaine asked whether all the different entities within the State will be addressed or whether it is just at the departmental level. She also asked about whether the issue of which agency will be the central one coordinating this work.

Dr. Lee acknowledged that the interviews will be conducted of agencies represented on the Working Group, not just the Departments, and he noted that the Office of Enterprise Technology Services had not been officially designated as the coordinating agency because the designation was requested to be made in the legislation for the Working Group.

Working Group Member Tokioka asked about the question pertaining to artificial intelligence, noting that he had an internal discussion within his department about the use of artificial intelligence. He said that many people in government are using artificial intelligence and asked whether the state will recommend a standard artificial intelligence with guardrails, understanding that there are cybersecurity concerns. Dr. Lee said that the Chief Data Officer may be looking at this. He recommended that the Chief Data Officer may be in a better position to respond. Dr. Lee also said that he tailored the questions to the requests in the legislation which formed the Working Group.

Facilitator Pavlicek pointed out that the questions mirror the legislation.

Chair Sakuda invited Mr. Fritz to provide comments. He said that many large firms develop internal artificial intelligence that might help with research. He did not hear discussion here today talking about internal AI.

Sharde Freitas from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs wanted to ask if OHA will also be included in the interviews. Chair Sakuda said that it would be great to include OHA.

- ii. Thomas Lee from the Hawaii Data Collaborative will present findings about the six areas of commonality and four areas of difference between California, Colorado, and Washington with respect to identification of barriers to seamless and frequent cross-departmental data sharing, followed by a discussion of the Working Group members. The reports for each of the three states are included in the meeting packet.

Dr. Lee provided a report on the other states: California, Colorado, and Washington.

He said that the Hawaii Data Collaborative reviewed the current data sharing adequacy for each of the three states. He relied on publicly available information and did not interview individuals in the three states.

He noted the following similarities between the states:

1. All three states have, or are actively building, systems linking education, workforce, and wage data across agencies.
2. All three states cannot capture self-employed workers, independent contractors, or gig workers who generate no UI wage records. Federal employment data is also absent from all three systems. Currently, no known active initiatives to close either gap exist across the three states.
3. Each state designates a central IT agency as the data governance anchor.

Chair Sakuda said that Hawaii's Chief Data Officer Rebecca Cai and a Task Force is doing complementary work posted on the Office of Enterprise Technology Services website.

4. All three states have enacted formal AI governance through executive orders or statewide policy.
5. None of the three states has a single centralized analytics bureau. All rely on a distributed model.
6. Technology modernization is a shared challenge.

Working Group Member Christen Tang, representing the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, asked whether there will be an effort to interview the states' representatives. Dr. Lee said that there has not been communication with leaders in the other states. He said, that is where most insights can be found, but given the time constraints, it is not possible. However, he continued, a future effort may be an opportunity to work with Hawaii's Chief Data Officer. Chair Sakuda thanked Ms. Tang for the question and affirmed the plan for Dr. Lee to proceed as discussed.

Dr. Lee also noted the State of Indiana and the Commonwealth of Virginia as being worthy of closer

examination.

Working Group Member Stephen Schatz asked whether it would be useful to include Hawaii in the comparison and grid. He said that Hawaii has quite a bit of data sharing and infrastructure already, which will enable the Working Group to be more precise in comparison. Dr. Lee acknowledged that this will be useful once the interviews are completed. He also pointed out that there may be differences in the statutes that form the requirements for each of the states. There may be a need for a statutory change in Hawaii. Dr. Lee agreed that there are key differences which he also looked at more closely. For example, he said that in California, there are specific use cases for data sharing. He also said that Colorado enacted legislation that may be pertinent to the insights presented here. For Washington, Dr. Lee said that there is a more onerous individualized agreement process.

Dr. Lee reported on the differences between the states in these areas:

1. Data Sharing Agreement Model
2. Chief Data Officer Role
3. Workforce Capacity & Data Literacy Programs
4. Maturity / Stage of Longitudinal Data System

- c. **Relevant Strategic Plans.** Facilitator Pavlicek will provide a brief update on the effort to gather plans that will be reviewed to ensure alignment between existing data-sharing efforts and relevant strategic plans from state and county governments, including the public education system, University of Hawaii, and workforce development council. A more complete report will be invited for Member Misalucha and the Learn, Work, Thrive Hui to present a future meeting.

Facilitator Pavlicek reported that this item is being deferred to a future meeting.

- d. **Unemployment Record Systems.** Facilitator Pavlicek will provide a brief update on the process for assessing the ability for unemployment compensation wage record systems to include occupation, pay rate, and work location. The process previously decided was to request information of DLIR stakeholders and vendors and scan the policies of other states to determine whether other states' unemployment compensation wage records include occupation, pay rate, and work location. The Working Group will be asked to decide whether additional strategies are necessary.

Facilitator Pavlicek reported that unemployment record systems will be addressed during the interviews. Chair Sakuda said the best course of action is to reach out to the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations. Ms. Tang thanked the Working Group for asking the department and will look forward to hearing the questions in the interviews. Chair Sakuda thanked the department for all its modernization work.

- e. **Gaps in Resources and Personnel.** Chair Sakuda will report on the progress toward conducting interviews to identify gaps in resources and personnel to effectively collect, share, analyze, and disseminate findings from data.

Chair Sakuda said that this is being addressed during the interviews and thanked the Working Group members for scheduling time for the interviews.

- f. **Technology Upgrades.** Thomas Lee from the Hawaii Data Collaborative will respond to questions regarding technology upgrades necessary or recommended by California, Colorado, and Washington.

Facilitator Pavlicek acknowledged that Dr. Lee is also looking at this during the interviews. Due to time constraints, Dr. Lee said that technology upgrades will likely be addressed by the Chief Data Officer. The information about specific technology is not suited for public information. He said that as he learns and reports more from the departments, sensitive information will be aggregated and handled appropriately.

VI. Good of the Order

- a. **Announcements:** Chair Sakuda noted that there are a few follow up items from today's meeting as suggested by Stephen Schatz and to invite an update on the Generational Commitment. As the Working Group heads to September, he said that there will be opportunities to formulate the work ahead.

Facilitator Pavlicek suggested to add a September meeting. Chair Sakuda said that the Working Group can reassess whether to add a meeting at a later time. She said she is inclined to pencil a date in at the August meeting for September.

Working Group Member Chaine noted the requirement for one or more advisory meetings with the stakeholders identified in the statute. Facilitator Pavlicek offered to report back at the August meeting.

- b. **Next Meeting:** Chair Sakuda said that the August 20, 2026 will likely need to be rescheduled as she has a conflict on that date.

VII. Adjournment

Chair Sakuda called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Member Furuto moved to adjourn, with Member Tang seconding the motion. The meeting adjourned at 12:26 pm.