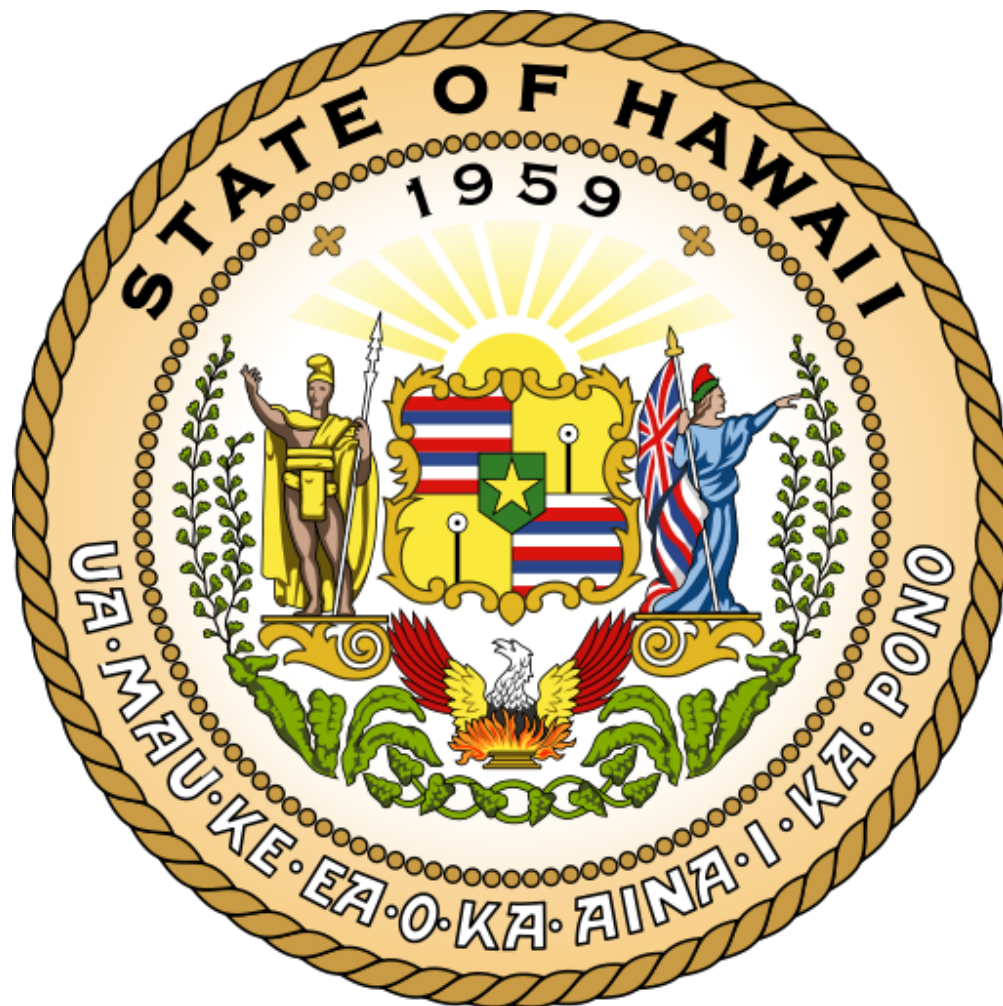


# Chapter 6. The Structure of State and Local Government

If “all politics is local,” as former Speaker of the House Tip O’Neill among others once said, then it is vitally important to understand the functions of state and local government. Such governments are the ones closest to where people live and their policies can have the greatest impacts on people’s daily lives.












[Seal of the State of Hawaii](#) | Public Domain

The media literacy activities in this section investigate topics where state and local government actions impact people and where people impact state and local government policies, including Native American mascots and logos, individual rights and privacy online, military recruitment, state-

sponsored lotteries, COVID-19 pandemic and environmental protection policies, campaigns for public office, and digital democracy at state and local levels.

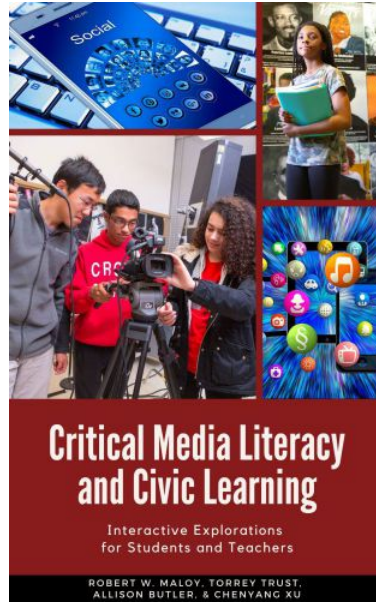
## Media Literacy Activities Choice Board

<p><a href="#">Propose a New Logo Honoring Native Peoples' Influence on U.S. Government</a></p> <p>Design a logo for a local or state government committee.</p> 	<p><a href="#">Design a Constitution for the Internet</a></p> <p>Create a list of principles for Internet users to abide by and use this list to create a Constitution for the Internet.</p> 	<p><a href="#">Assess Media Use for Military Recruitment</a></p> <p>Research the armed services' use of media for recruitment and share your findings.</p> 	<p><a href="#">Propose an Amendment for the Right to Privacy in Digital Settings</a></p> <p>Review various websites' privacy policies and propose a Constitutional Amendment about the right to privacy in digital settings.</p> 
<p><a href="#">Evaluate State Government's Media Use</a></p> <p>Examine how different states used the media to inform people about COVID-19 policies.</p>  <p><a href="#">Examine the use of Gendered Language in the Media</a></p> <p>Compare media descriptions of female and male politicians and share your findings.</p> 	<p><b>The Structure of State and Local Government Digital Choice Board</b></p>  <p><i>Building Democracy for All</i>, a free eBook by Robert Maloy &amp; Torrey Trust explores all these topics and more.</p>		<p><a href="#">Design an Environmental Awareness Campaign for Your Local or State Government</a></p> <p>Design a social media campaign for an environmental policy that needs support.</p>  <p><a href="#">Suggest Ways to Use Media to Encourage Citizens to Protect Local and State Commons</a></p> <p>Examine local/state government's use of media for the commons and suggest ways to improve it.</p> 
<p><a href="#">Design an Online Political Campaign for a State Political Office</a></p> <p>Create a social media campaign for a position in your state government.</p> 	<p><a href="#">Analyze Lottery Ads</a></p> <p>Review lottery ads then design your own to convince people to not spend their money on lottery tickets.</p> 	<p><a href="#">Analyze Pandemic Media Messengers in Your Community</a></p> <p>Create a graphic organizer about media messengers your classmates trust.</p> 	<p><a href="#">Review and Improve Your Local Town Government's Use of Social Media</a></p> <p>Make a video aimed at improving your local government's use of social media to engage citizens.</p> 

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The Structure of State and Local Government Media Literacy Choice Board ([view](#)) ([make your own copy of this choice board to remix/share/use](#))

## Media Literacy Activities



Maloy, R. W., Trust, T., , & Xu, C. (2021). *Critical Media Literacy and Civic Learning*. Equity Press. <https://equitypress.org/mediaandciviclearning>