
HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE HAWAII COUNTY OFFICE OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY
TO CONDUCT A STUDY ON THE FEASIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING
"RECEIVING HOMES" IN EAST AND WEST HAWAII.

1 WHEREAS, Hawaii County recognized the need to develop a
2 comprehensive strategic plan in 2000 to identify priority risk
3 factors and implement solutions to juvenile delinquency, and
4 thereafter established the Hawaii County Comprehensive Strategy
5 Steering Committee (Youth Builders), composed of criminal
6 justice, social services, and education partners, to address
7 issues pertaining to juvenile justice; and

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9 WHEREAS, in 2003, Youth Builders developed a Hawaii County
10 Comprehensive Strategic Plan for Juvenile Justice which included
11 the findings of its Objective Decision-Making Group (ODM), which
12 mapped the current juvenile justice system to identify the
13 critical decision points and to document the current decision-
14 making processes; and

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16 WHEREAS, ODM concluded that an infrastructure of
17 interagency collaboration of the juvenile justice, mental
18 health, child welfare, and education systems would improve the
19 delivery of coordinated and effective services to youth who are
20 neglected and abused, at-risk, status offenders, or delinquent;
21 and

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23 WHEREAS, ODM designated as its top priority for juvenile
24 justice in the County of Hawaii, the establishment of "receiving
25 home" facilities in East and West Hawaii where juveniles may be
26 placed at any time, night or day, to receive a comprehensive
27 multi-disciplinary screening and risks and needs assessment to
28 ensure an integrated model of care and seamless array of
29 services; and
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1 WHEREAS, the Big Island Juvenile Intake and Assessment
2 Center (BIJIAC) committee was formed consisting of
3 representatives from the Department of Human Services, Child
4 Welfare Services of East and West Hawaii, District Family Court
5 of the Third Circuit, Hawaii County Office of the Prosecuting
6 Attorney, Department of Education, Hawaii District, Department
7 of Health, Family Guidance Center, Office of the Public
8 Defender, and Hawaii County Police Department; and
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10 WHEREAS, these collaborating agencies have entered into a
11 Memorandum of Understanding memorializing their general
12 agreement to develop an intake and assessment process and
13 physical facilities in Kona and Hilo, and establish a database
14 of shared information to support the project; and
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16 WHEREAS, the establishment of such receiving facilities
17 will alleviate the present practice of Hawaii County police
18 holding youth in its custody until a determination can be made
19 as to which agency should have the lead role in placement and
20 services; now, therefore,
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22 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
23 Twenty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
24 of 2006, that the Hawaii County Office of the Prosecuting
25 Attorney is requested to conduct a study, based upon available
26 information, on the feasibility of establishing receiving homes
27 in East and West Hawaii; and
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29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hawaii County Office of the
30 Prosecuting Attorney, is requested to identify and examine each
31 of the following areas relating to juvenile justice:
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- 33 (1) Available data and rationale regarding the current
34 processes used in handling juveniles;
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36 (2) Feasibility of a single point of entry for youth into
37 the juvenile justice or social service system;
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39 (3) Development of a system-wide screening and assessment
40 instrument to be used when the youth first enters the
41 juvenile justice or social service system;



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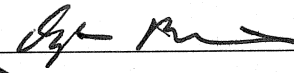
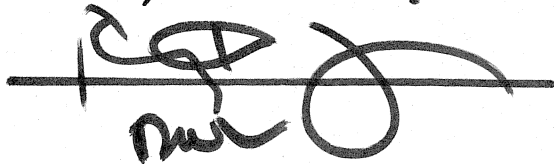
- (4) Existing federal and state laws and local and agency rules relating to confidentiality, privacy, and privilege and their impact on interagency information sharing;
- (5) Existing regulatory and licensing requirements for youth care providers, facilities, and services and their effect on establishing receiving facilities;
- (6) Development of a system of interagency information sharing to reduce service redundancy; and
- (7) Existing programs and resources and those that need to be developed to prevent or reduce gaps in service;

and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hawaii County Office of the Prosecuting Attorney is requested to submit, not later than 20 days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2007, its findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature for establishing receiving homes, multi-agency screening, and risk and needs assessment in Hawaii County; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Chief Justice, Director of Human Services, Superintendent of Education, Director of Health, State Public Defender, Mayor of Hawaii County, and Hawaii County Chief of Police.

OFFERED BY:

MAR 15 2006

