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# HOUSE RESOLUTION

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ESTABLISHING AN ELDER ABUSE TASK FORCE.

1 WHEREAS, the problem of elder abuse is a priority of the  
2 Legislature; and

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4 WHEREAS, there are many types of abuse, including financial  
5 abuse, mental abuse, physical abuse, and the threat of imminent  
6 abuse; and

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8 WHEREAS, an array of state agencies and service groups in  
9 the private sector are actively involved in discussions with the  
10 Legislature; and

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12 WHEREAS, there are legal considerations including proof,  
13 definitions, penalties, interpretations, and overlapping  
14 jurisdictions that also accompany the discussions of abuse; and

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16 WHEREAS, by the year 2020, approximately one of every four  
17 people in Hawaii will be 60 years-of-age or older; and

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19 WHEREAS, methods to assist families and their elders  
20 through the creation of public or private mechanisms to resolve  
21 disputes of a family member abusing an elderly relative must be  
22 discussed and explored; and

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24 WHEREAS, agencies such as the Department of Human Services,  
25 Department of Health, and Attorney General, and service  
26 organizations such as AARP Hawaii, the Coalition of Care Home  
27 Administrators, Foster Family Association, Hawaii Health Care  
28 Association, ARC of Hawaii, Developmental Disabilities Council,  
29 Disability Rights Center, and many others, are all stakeholders  
30 in this important discussion; now, therefore,



1 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
2 Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular  
3 Session of 2007, that the Chairs of the House of Representatives  
4 Committees on Human Services and Housing and Health, and the  
5 Chairs of the Senate Committees on Human Services and Public  
6 Housing and Health are requested to establish an Elder Abuse  
7 Task Force (Task Force) with members appointed by the Speaker of  
8 the House and President of the Senate; and  
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10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Task Force study the  
11 contributing factors of elder abuse, methods of prevention, care  
12 for elder abuse victims, and any other relevant matter relating  
13 to elder abuse; and  
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15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Task Force is requested to  
16 submit a report of its findings and recommendations, including  
17 proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than 20 days  
18 prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2008; and  
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20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Reference  
21 Bureau is requested to provide administrative, clerical, and  
22 other necessary staff support to the Task Force; and  
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24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
25 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Human Services,  
26 Director of Health, and the Attorney General.  
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