
SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES AND PUBLIC
HOUSING TO CONVENE A WORKING GROUP TO FURTHER STUDY
RECOMMENDATIONS MADE BY THE SCR 52 TASK FORCE COMMITTEES.

1 WHEREAS, in the 2004 Regular Session, the Senate adopted
2 Senate Resolution No. 40, authorizing the Senate Committee on
3 Human Services to convene interim hearings on the Hawaii Family
4 Court; and

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6 WHEREAS, the interim hearings were designed to explore ways
7 to make the Hawaii Family Court more accessible and family
8 oriented and focused on important issues relating to reduction
9 in caseload; and

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11 WHEREAS, some of the recommendations were adopted and
12 received legislative attention, but there were still other
13 issues that remained unresolved; and

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15 WHEREAS, to continue work on the unresolved issues, in the
16 2006 Regular Session, the Senate and the House of
17 Representatives adopted Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 52,
18 S.D. 1, authorizing the Committees on Human Services of the
19 Senate and the House of Representatives to convene interim
20 hearings on the use of legal interventions available to the
21 Family Court and to establish one or more task forces to
22 facilitate their work; and

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24 WHEREAS, the SCR 52 Task Force was established for that
25 purpose; and

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27 WHEREAS, there are other issues and recommendations that
28 the SCR 52 Task Force needs to study further; now, therefore,

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30 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fourth
31 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2007,
32 that the Senate Committee on Human Services and Public Housing
33 is requested to convene a working group to further study the
34 outstanding recommendations of the four committees that were
35 formed relating to Family Court Models, Family Court Sunshine



1 and Accountability, Temporary Restraining Orders, and the Best
2 Interests of the Child, and any other related issues; and
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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, upon the adoption of this
5 Resolution, the working group is to be referred to as the Family
6 Court Legal Interventions Working Group and cease to exist on
7 January 1, 2009; and
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9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Family Court Legal
10 Interventions Working Group include one representative of the
11 Department of Human Services; the Department of Health; the
12 Hawaii Association of Marriage and Family Therapists; the Family
13 Law Section of the Hawaii State Bar Association; the National
14 Association of Social Workers, Hawaii Chapter; the Children's
15 Rights Council; the Hawaii Coalition for Dads; Legal Aid Society
16 of Hawaii; Volunteer Legal Services Hawaii; the Hawaii State
17 Coalition Against Domestic Violence; the Domestic Violence
18 Clearinghouse and Legal Hotline; the Mediation Center of the
19 Pacific; EPIC Ohana Conferencing; the Hawaii Psychological
20 Association; the Family Justice Alliance; VOICES; and the
21 Commission on the Status of Women; and
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23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the University of Hawaii Social
24 Services Public Policy Center assist the Family Court Legal
25 Interventions Working Group with the facilitation of the group's
26 efforts; and
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28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Family Court Legal
29 Interventions Working Group includes participation from persons
30 who represent the neighbor islands in its discussions; and
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32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Family Court Legal
33 Interventions Working Group submit an interim report, including
34 any proposed legislation, no later than twenty days prior to the
35 convening of the Regular Session of 2008, and submit a final
36 report, including any proposed legislation, no later than twenty
37 days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2009; and
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39 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
40 Resolution be transmitted to the President of the Senate, the
41 Chair of the Senate Committee on Human Services and Public
42 Housing, the Chair of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and
43 Labor, the Director of Human Services, the Director of Health,
44 President of the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Association of



1 Marriage and Family Therapists, Chair of the Family Law Section,
2 President of the Hawaii State Bar Association, Executive
3 Director of the Hawaii Chapter of the National Association of
4 Social Workers, President of the Children's Rights Council of
5 Hawaii, President of the Hawaii Coalition for Dads, President of
6 the Legal Aid Society of Hawaii, Executive Director of Volunteer
7 Legal Services Hawaii, Executive Director of the Hawaii State
8 Coalition Against Domestic Violence, Executive Director of the
9 Domestic Violence Clearinghouse and Legal Hotline, President of
10 the Board of Directors of the Mediation Center of the Pacific,
11 Director of EPIC Ohana Conferencing, President of Hawaii
12 Psychological Association, the Family Justice Alliance, VOICES,
13 the Commission on the Status of Women, the University of Hawaii
14 Social Sciences Public Policy Center, and the Chief Justice of
15 the Hawaii Supreme Court.

