

---

## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

---

URGING THE PROVISION OF EDUCATION TO INCARCERATED PARENTS TO ENSURE CHILD SUPPORT ISSUES ARE ADDRESSED WITHOUT DELAY AND UPON RELEASE, TO PREPARE THEM FOR REINTEGRATION WITH THEIR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES, INCLUDING GRANDPARENTS WHO HAVE RAISED THEIR CHILDREN.

1           WHEREAS, as a result of the work of the Joint Legislative  
2 Committee on Family Caregiving, Act 11, Special Session Law of  
3 Hawaii 2008, established a Grandparents Raising Grandchildren  
4 Task Force (GRG) to assess and report on the needs and issues of  
5 grandparents raising grandchildren; and  
6

7           WHEREAS, the final report generated by the Grandparents  
8 Raising Grandchildren Task Force found that incarcerated parents  
9 do not understand their rights and responsibilities regarding  
10 child support payments, including their responsibility to inform  
11 the court of their incarceration and corresponding inability to  
12 pay child support; and  
13

14           WHEREAS, the GRG final report also found that:

- 15
- 16           (1) Incarcerated parents leaving prison lack awareness on  
17           how to best re-enter relations with their children;  
18
  - 19           (2) Reintegration classes are offered to parents being  
20           released from prison but are not mandatory; and  
21
  - 22           (3) Parents being released from incarceration without  
23           adequate re-entry education may disrupt stable  
24           households that grandparents provide; now, therefore,  
25

26           BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
27 Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
28 of 2010, the Senate concurring, that the Department of Public  
29 Safety make mandatory its existing program for preparing soon-  
30 to-be-released parents to deal with life issues, and enhance



1 that program by including information and training regarding how  
2 soon-to-be-released parents can:

- 3
- 4 (1) Renew contacts with their children and grandparents
- 5 and other ohana or family member caring for their
- 6 children;
- 7
- 8 (2) Prevent or avoid conflict and disrupting the lives of
- 9 their children and grandparents who have been raising
- 10 their children; and
- 11
- 12 (3) Prepare themselves for assuming full responsibility as
- 13 a parent; and
- 14

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that upon intake, the Department of  
16 Public Safety inform parents being incarcerated that it is the  
17 parent's responsibility to contact the respective court in  
18 reference to child support obligations and to inform the court  
19 of the parent's inability to pay child support due to  
20 incarceration; and

21  
22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Public Safety  
23 is requested to submit a report to the legislature on the  
24 actions it has taken pursuant to this measure no later than  
25 twenty days before the convening of the 2011 Regular Session;  
26 and

27  
28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
29 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Public  
30 Safety, the Director of Health, the Director of Human Services,  
31 the County Executive of the City and County of Honolulu Elderly  
32 Affairs Division, the Director of the State of Hawaii Executive  
33 Office on Aging, and the Head of the Community Alliance on  
34 Prisons.

35  
36  
37 OFFERED BY: Maui B. Lee

Karl Nash  
Roger Hansen  
Sabrina Maramba

Karen Luana

MAR 04 2010

On Sham