
HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES TO CREATE A DATABASE RESOURCE WEBSITE TO HOUSE REAL-TIME AVAILABILITY OF ALL JUVENILE SERVICES FROM THE LOWEST LEVEL OF CARE TO THE HIGHEST LEVEL OF CARE FOR THE APPROPRIATE PLACEMENT OF JUVENILES IN HAWAII.

1 WHEREAS, the current practice for placing juveniles in
2 programs is guided by probation officers advising judges; and
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4 WHEREAS, placing juveniles in the most appropriate level of
5 care is often difficult due to limited program options and
6 difficulty knowing placement availability in real time; and
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8 WHEREAS, placing juveniles at Hawaii Youth Correctional
9 Facility (HYCF) when they may not require that level of care, as
10 a response to lack of known options, should be avoided; and
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12 WHEREAS, an inappropriate placement at HYCF can lead to
13 further developmental hardship and decreased recovery and
14 rehabilitation efforts for youth; and
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16 WHEREAS, finding appropriate levels of care requires real-
17 time availability and placement information that can be obtained
18 by judges and probation officers to allow them to be aware of
19 openings or programs to address each youth's needs; and
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21 WHEREAS, creating a real-time available database website
22 with an easy-to-use selection process can allow probation
23 officers, judiciary, community agencies, social workers,
24 families, etc., to access the most appropriate program for a
25 juvenile's unique needs; and



1 WHEREAS, providing this website could assist the judiciary
 2 and other agencies with information critical to placing
 3 juveniles by making information such as eligibility criteria,
 4 funding restrictions, program focus, and services offered
 5 available; and

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 7 WHEREAS, this website could be used as a valuable
 8 preventive measure allowing families and community organizations
 9 to research programs before their youths get to a point where
 10 they become wards of the state or involved in criminal activity;
 11 and

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 13 WHEREAS, collaboration between the state, other
 14 governmental, non-profit, and community-based organizations who
 15 provide services to youth will enhance continuity of care and
 16 improve awareness of services available for all levels of care;
 17 now, therefore,

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 19 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
 20 Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
 21 of 2010, that the Department of Human Services is requested to
 22 create a database resource website to house real-time
 23 availability of all juvenile services from the lowest level of
 24 care to the highest level of care for the appropriate placement
 25 of juveniles in Hawaii; and

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 27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 28 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Director of Human
 29 Services, Superintendent of Education, and Director of Public
 30 Safety.

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OFFERED BY: Yula B. Berg

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