

MAR 10 2010

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# SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE CONVENING OF A JOINT LEGISLATIVE FAMILY COURT  
LEGAL INTERVENTIONS WORKING GROUP.

1           WHEREAS, Senate Resolution No. 40 was adopted during the  
2 2004 Regular Session, authorizing the Senate Committee on Human  
3 Services to convene interim hearings on the Hawaii Family Court;  
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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, during  
16 the 2006 Regular Session the Senate Concurrent Resolution  
17 No. 52, S.D. 1 authorized the Committee on Human Services to  
18 convene interim hearings on the use of legal interventions  
19 available to the Family Court and to establish one or more task  
20 forces to facilitate their work; and

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22           WHEREAS, a task force was established for that purpose; and

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24           WHEREAS, there are other issues that the task force  
25 identified as needing further analysis; now, therefore,

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27           BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fifth  
28 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2010, the  
29 House of Representatives concurring, that the Legislature  
30 convene a joint legislative working group to further study the  
31 outstanding recommendations of the four committees that were  
32 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 measure, the working group is to be referred to as the Joint  
6 Legislative Family Court Legal Interventions Working Group and  
7 will dissolve on January 1, 2011; and  
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9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Joint Legislative Family  
10 Court Legal Interventions Working Group include one  
11 representative of the Department of Human Services; the  
12 Department of Health; the Hawaii Association of Marriage and  
13 Family Therapists; the Family Law Section of the Hawaii State  
14 Bar Association; the National Association of Social Workers,  
15 Hawaii Chapter; the Children's Rights Council of Hawaii; the  
16 Hawaii Coalition for Dads; the Legal Aid Society of Hawaii;  
17 Volunteer Legal Services Hawaii; the Hawaii State Coalition  
18 Against Domestic Violence; the Domestic Violence Clearinghouse  
19 and Legal Hotline; the Mediation Center of the Pacific; EPIC  
20 Ohana Conferencing; the Hawaii Psychological Association; the  
21 Family Justice Alliance; VOICES; the Commission on the Status of  
22 Women; and persons representing the islands of Hawaii, Kauai,  
23 Maui, Molokai, and Lanai as determined by the Joint Legislative  
24 Family Court Interventions Working Group; and  
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26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the University of Hawaii Social  
27 Services Public Policy Center assist the Joint Legislative  
28 Family Court Legal Interventions Working Group with the  
29 facilitation of the group's efforts; and  
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31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Joint Legislative Family  
32 Court Legal Interventions Working Group submit an interim  
33 report, including any proposed legislation, no later than twenty  
34 days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2011, and  
35 submit a final report, including any proposed legislation, no  
36 later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular  
37 Session of 2012; and  
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39 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
40 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the President of the  
41 Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Chair  
42 of the Senate Committee on Human Services, the Chair of the  
43 Senate Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations, the  
44 Director of Human Services, the Director of Health, President of



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

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OFFERED BY: *Shianne Chun Akiland*

