
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

RECOGNIZING AND COMMENDING THE OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS FOR
ITS STUDY ON THE DISPARATE TREATMENT OF NATIVE HAWAIIANS IN
THE CRIMINAL-JUSTICE SYSTEM.

1 WHEREAS, in the Regular Session of 2009, the Legislature
2 adopted House Concurrent Concurrent Resolution No. 27, H.D. 1,
3 requesting that the Office of Hawaiian Affairs contract with a
4 nationally respected and objective consulting firm to conduct a
5 study of disparate treatment of Native Hawaiians in Hawaii's
6 criminal-justice system; and
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8 WHEREAS, in conducting the study, the Office of Hawaiian
9 Affairs forged collaborative research partnerships with the
10 Justice Policy Institute of Washington, D.C.; Georgetown
11 University; and the University of Hawaii at Manoa's William S.
12 Richardson School of Law, Department of Urban and Regional
13 Planning, and Myron B. Thompson School of Social Work; and
14

15 WHEREAS, the study demonstrated groundbreaking research and
16 analysis, using both quantitative and qualitative methods and
17 including the voices of Native Hawaiians about the criminal-
18 justice system and its effect on their lives; and
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20 WHEREAS, the study employed community-based participatory
21 methods with guidance and support through an advisory council
22 comprising Native Hawaiian clinicians and practitioners from
23 community organizations, such as Alu Like, Inc.; Queen
24 Liliuokalani Children's Center; and the Community Alliance on
25 Prisons; and



1 WHEREAS, the study found, among other disparities, that
2 after controlling for age, gender, and severity of charge,
3 Native Hawaiians are sentenced to more days in prison, and
4 receive longer probation, than most other ethnic groups; and
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6 WHEREAS, the study also found that the disproportionate
7 impact of the criminal-justice system on Native Hawaiians
8 accumulates at each stage of the system; and
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10 WHEREAS, following its release by the Office of Hawaiian
11 Affairs in September 2010, the study report, titled "The
12 Disparate Treatment of Native Hawaiians in the Criminal Justice
13 System," has been widely noted and referenced in Hawaii and
14 across the nation, contributing significantly to a greater
15 understanding of the impact of the criminal-justice system on
16 individuals of all ethnic groups and on society at large; and
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18 WHEREAS, the report contained constructive recommendations
19 to reduce the unfair impact of the criminal-justice system on
20 Native Hawaiians, including:
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- 22 (1) Reforming the criminal-justice system in Hawaii
23 to embrace the cultural values of Native
24 Hawaiians;
- 25
- 26 (2) Establishing a task force to review the findings
27 and recommendations of the report; and
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- 29 (3) Concentrating efforts to reduce the punitive
30 aspects of the criminal-justice system;
- 31

32 and
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34 WHEREAS, the report is imaginatively and artistically
35 presented, with a remarkable mix of artwork, text, and
36 statistics that lend it cultural, historical, and methodological
37 depth and enhance its readability; now, therefore,

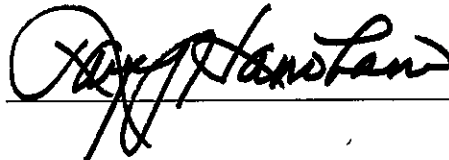


H.C.R. NO. 295

1 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
2 Twenty-sixth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
3 of 2011, the Senate concurring, that this body hereby recognizes
4 and commends the Office of Hawaiian Affairs for its study on the
5 disparate treatment of Native Hawaiians in the criminal-justice
6 system; and

7
8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this
9 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the
10 Board of Trustees of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs.

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12
13 OFFERED BY:



MAR 16 2011

