HOUSE RESOLUTION

URGING FAMILIES THAT EXPERIENCE BULLYING IN THE HOME TO SEEK COUNSELING AND THE JUDICIARY TO REQUIRE COUNSELING FOR THOSE CONVICTED OF A CRIME WHOSE FACTS SUGGEST BULLYING.

WHEREAS, bullying has serious and lasting effects; and

WHEREAS, research has found that bullying has significant effects for those who are bullied, those who bully others, and those who witness bullying; and

WHEREAS, bullying increases the risk of depression and anxiety for victims and witnesses of bullying, and increases the likelihood of criminal convictions for those who bully; and

WHEREAS, although less publicized, bullying often occurs in the home between family members, and has the same debilitating effects as bullying in school; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature finds that counseling is an effective and common sense approach to addressing the issue of bullying in the home; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-sixth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2011, that the Legislature urges families that experience bullying in the home to seek counseling to address the causes and adverse effects of bullying; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Judiciary is urged to require counseling for any person convicted of a crime whose facts suggest bullying, regardless of where the bullying occurs; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Chief Justice of the Hawaii Supreme Court, the Senior Judge of the Hawaii Family Court, and

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the Director of Human Services, who is in turn requested to distribute copies to families in need.

OFFERED BY: Mele Cancel

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