
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE CONVENING OF A TASK FORCE TO REPORT ON EARLY INTERVENTION STRATEGIES AND RESOURCES TO MITIGATE ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOR AND AVERT INCARCERATION AND RECIDIVISM AMONG NATIVE HAWAIIANS.

1 WHEREAS, there is a concern for the health and welfare of
2 native Hawaiian inmates in prisons in Hawaii and the continental
3 United States; and

4
5 WHEREAS, due to a number of historic and socioeconomic
6 factors, native Hawaiians make up a disproportionately high
7 percentage of the inmate population in the state prison system,
8 accounting for 24 percent of the overall state population but 39
9 percent of the incarcerated population; and

10
11 WHEREAS, in response to those concerns, the Office of
12 Hawaiian Affairs, in collaboration with public and private
13 entities, published a report entitled "The Disparate Treatment
14 of Native Hawaiians in the Criminal Justice System" in September
15 2010; and

16
17 WHEREAS, this report found that, when controlled for all
18 factors except ethnicity, native Hawaiians face disparate
19 treatment in the Hawaii criminal justice system in many areas,
20 including longer prison sentences, probations, and a higher
21 percentage of parole revocations; and

22
23 WHEREAS, as detailed in the report, two of the key factors
24 that contribute to recidivism are a lack of standard and
25 culturally-based programs in prison to adequately prepare an
26 inmate for reentry into society; and

27
28 WHEREAS, early intervention strategies and resources
29 mitigate antisocial behavior and avert incarceration and
30 recidivism by serving as positive and effective influences
31 through their emphasis on coping and self-efficacy skills,



1 positive behavioral interventions, education and training, and
2 coordinated services at home, at school, and in the community;
3 now, therefore,
4

5 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
6 Twenty-sixth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
7 of 2011, the Senate concurring, that the Office of Hawaiian
8 Affairs is requested to convene a task force to produce a
9 comprehensive report on early intervention strategies and
10 resources needed to mitigate antisocial behavior and avert
11 incarceration and recidivism among native Hawaiians; and
12

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Office of Hawaiian Affairs
14 submit the report to the Governor and the Legislature no later
15 than 20 days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of
16 2012; and
17

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
19 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Director
20 of Public Safety, and Chairperson of the Board of Trustees of
21 the Office of Hawaiian Affairs.

