

---

---

## HOUSE RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY: HAWAII DIVISION, TO DEVELOP DRAFT LEGISLATION ESTABLISHING, IMPLEMENTING, AND MONITORING CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL LICENSED MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPISTS IN HAWAII.

1 WHEREAS, the profession of marriage and family therapy  
2 provides critically needed services in prevention, intervention,  
3 and treatment to a broad spectrum of clients; and  
4

5 WHEREAS, it is vitally important that marriage and family  
6 therapists provide the best possible service to their clients;  
7 and  
8

9 WHEREAS, continuing education is essential to help marriage  
10 and family therapists maintain their professional competency and  
11 keep abreast of the latest developments in their profession; and  
12

13 WHEREAS, Hawaii is one of only three states that do not  
14 require continuing education credits as part of their licensing  
15 law for marriage and family therapists; and  
16

17 WHEREAS, the American Association for Marriage and Family  
18 Therapy is a membership organization that represents  
19 approximately 25,000 marriage and family therapists across the  
20 nation, and the Hawaii Division represents about 360 marriage  
21 and family therapists across the State; and  
22

23 WHEREAS, the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs is  
24 charged with protecting consumers through its regulatory and  
25 licensing responsibilities; and  
26

27 WHEREAS, the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs  
28 and American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy: Hawaii  
29 Division are currently working together on specific provisions  
30 to be included in a bill to establish continuing education  
31 requirements for licensed marriage and family therapists; and  
32



1 WHEREAS, the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs  
2 and American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy: Hawaii  
3 Division have also identified issues relevant to the requirement  
4 for continuing education for licensed marriage and family  
5 therapists, such as:

- 6
- 7 (1) Ensuring that such requirements do not impose an undue  
8 burden on marriage and family therapists in rural  
9 areas of Hawaii;
- 10
- 11 (2) Using an established, widely recognized non-  
12 governmental entity to approve continuing education  
13 credits; and
- 14
- 15 (3) Ensuring that the program to implement and monitor  
16 continuing education credits for licensed marriage and  
17 family therapists is cost-neutral to the State; and  
18

19 WHEREAS, there are currently opportunities offered by  
20 approved providers for continuing education statewide, including  
21 in rural areas, such as in-person courses, webinars, and  
22 teleconferences; and  
23

24 WHEREAS, continuing education opportunities should be made  
25 available to members and non-members of the American Association  
26 for Marriage and Family Therapy: Hawaii Division; and  
27

28 WHEREAS, the joint effort of the Department of Commerce and  
29 Consumer Affairs and American Association for Marriage and  
30 Family Therapy: Hawaii Division is critical in increasing and  
31 maintaining the professional competence of licensed marriage and  
32 family therapists in Hawaii through a continuing education  
33 program; now, therefore,  
34

35 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
36 Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular  
37 Session of 2013, that the Department of Commerce and Consumer  
38 Affairs and American Association for Marriage and Family  
39 Therapy: Hawaii Division are urged to continue collaborating on  
40 the issue of developing, implementing, and monitoring continuing  
41 education requirements for all licensed marriage and family  
42 therapists in Hawaii; and  
43



1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that no later than twenty days prior  
 2 to the Regular Session of 2014, the Department of Commerce and  
 3 Consumer Affairs and American Association for Marriage and  
 4 Family Therapy: Hawaii Division are requested to submit to the  
 5 Legislature a proposed draft for a bill to establish, implement,  
 6 and monitor continuing education requirements for all licensed  
 7 marriage and family therapists in Hawaii; and

8  
 9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
 10 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Commerce and  
 11 Consumer Affairs and President of the American Association for  
 12 Marriage and Family Therapy: Hawaii Division.

13  
 14  
 15

OFFERED BY: Mel Carroll

Ray A. Hill Heke Kameh

Andy Evans DO

Heke Kameh Brend Kefauver

Tom B... [Signature]

Denny [Signature] Karen [Signature]

[Signature] [Signature]

Gregory Takayama [Signature]

[Signature] [Signature]

[Signature] [Signature]

[Signature] [Signature]

