
HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE CONVENING OF A TASK FORCE ON CHILD SUPPORT
RESPONSIBILITY.

1 WHEREAS, child support orders are issued for the necessary
2 support and maintenance of a child, including monetary support,
3 health care, and other related costs; and
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5 WHEREAS, although child support problems mainly relate to
6 parents who are delinquent in making child support payments, in
7 some cases a custodial parent may cause financial harm to the
8 obligor parent who makes child support payments if the custodial
9 parent fails to responsibly handle the finances involved in
10 supporting the child; and
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12 WHEREAS, the obligor parent responsible for child support
13 payments may sustain financial harm, including negative effects
14 on the parent's credit rating, when, without receiving prior
15 notice or providing consent, they are assigned financial
16 responsibilities by the custodial parent in excess of the terms
17 of the child support order; and
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19 WHEREAS, the potential for a custodial parent to
20 financially harm the obligor parent can add further strain to
21 complicated parent-child relationships; and
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23 WHEREAS, at present, an obligor parent in such situation
24 has little recourse available to resolve such disputes and
25 protect the parent's credit rating without considerable expense
26 and effort; now, therefore,
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28 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
29 Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
30 Session of 2013, that the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court is
31 requested to convene a task force on child support
32 responsibility to:
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- 34 (1) Identify specific issues and problems, gauge the
35 degree of prevalence, and quantify the social and



1 financial consequences in child support cases in which
2 the obligor parent may be subject to financial harm
3 from the improper assignment of financial
4 responsibilities by the custodial parent, without the
5 provision of notice or obtainment of consent and in
6 excess of the terms of the child support order; and
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8 (2) Develop solutions to address the matters identified in
9 paragraph (1), including recommendations to:

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11 (A) Ensure that child support orders reasonably allow
12 custodial parents to meet their financial
13 obligations;
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15 (B) Encourage a custodial parent who is having
16 difficulty in financially supporting a child to
17 seek appropriate means of obtaining assistance or
18 other recourse, such as a review and modification
19 of an existing child support order;
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21 (C) Increase enforcement or penalties to discourage
22 or prevent a custodial parent from resorting to
23 improperly assigning financial responsibility to
24 the obligor parent;
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26 (D) Expand non-litigious processes and resources for
27 an obligor parent who has been harmed by the
28 improper assignment of financial responsibility
29 by the custodial parent to remedy the harm and
30 avoid any further adverse consequences; and
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32 (E) Encourage, assist, or require creditors and
33 collection agencies to improve verification of a
34 parent's financial responsibility under a child
35 support order to avoid, or expediently identify
36 and cancel, collection processes commenced in
37 error; and
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39 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chief Justice of the
40 Supreme Court is requested to invite the following parties to
41 serve as members of the task force:
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43 (1) A representative from the family court of any circuit
44 of the State;



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- 2 (2) A representative from the Child Support Enforcement
- 3 Agency within the Department of the Attorney General;
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- 5 (3) A representative from the Family Law Section of the
- 6 Hawaii State Bar Association;
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- 8 (4) A representative from the Department of Commerce and
- 9 Consumer Affairs; and
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- 11 (5) Any other individual that the Chief Justice deems
- 12 appropriate; and
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14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to
 15 report its findings and recommendations, including any proposed
 16 legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior
 17 to the convening of the 2014 Regular Session; and

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 19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 20 Resolution be transmitted to the Chief Justice of the Supreme
 21 Court; the Administrative Director of the Courts; the Attorney
 22 General; the Administrator of the Child Support Enforcement
 23 Agency; the Chair of the Family Law Section of the Hawaii State
 24 Bar Association; and the Director of Commerce and Consumer
 25 Affairs.

OFFERED BY:

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