

---

---

## HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES TO PREPARE A  
PROGRESS REPORT ON DETAILING EFFORTS TO IMPROVE AND RE-  
ENGINEER PROCESSING FOR ADULT PROTECTIVE SERVICES.

1           WHEREAS, Adult Protective Services provides crisis  
2 intervention, including investigation and emergency services, to  
3 vulnerable adults reported to be abused, neglected, or  
4 financially exploited by others or seriously endangered due to  
5 self-neglect, without regard to income; and  
6

7           WHEREAS, Act 154, Session Laws of Hawaii 2008, was enacted  
8 to better protect vulnerable adults by expanding the Adult  
9 Protective Services law contained in Chapter 346, part X, Hawaii  
10 Revised Statutes; and  
11

12           WHEREAS, since July 1, 2009, the Department of Human  
13 Services has been accepting reports on allegations of caregiver  
14 neglect, physical abuse, psychological abuse, self-neglect,  
15 financial exploitation, and sexual abuse pursuant to the  
16 expanded law; and  
17

18           WHEREAS, the expanded law also requires the Department of  
19 Human Services to investigate a report of abuse on a vulnerable  
20 adult, and make an effort to refer the adult to other resources  
21 so that future reports or actual abuse do not occur if the  
22 Department determines that the criteria for abuse or neglect are  
23 not met; and  
24

25           WHEREAS, the Department of Human Services has limited  
26 resources and lacks additional staff and funds necessary to  
27 fully implement the expansion of the adult protective services  
28 law; and  
29

30           WHEREAS, the Department of Human Services indicates that it  
31 is undertaking important changes to respond to the critical  
32 state of Adult Protective Services, including re-engineering  
33 processing according to best and evidence-based practices and  
34 updating data collection; now, therefore,



1 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
2 Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular  
3 Session of 2013, that the Department of Human Services is  
4 requested to provide a progress report to the Legislature  
5 detailing efforts to improve and re-engineer processing for  
6 Adult Protective Services; and  
7

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Human  
9 Services is requested to submit a preliminary and a final report  
10 of its progress and future plans to the Legislature no later  
11 than 20 days prior to the convening of the Regular Sessions of  
12 2014 and 2015, respectively; and  
13

14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
15 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Director of Human  
16 Services, Administrator of the Social Services Division of the  
17 Department of Human Services, and Administrator of the Adult and  
18 Community Care Services Branch of the Social Services Division  
19 of the Department of Human Services.

