

---

---

# HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

ENCOURAGING THE POLICE DEPARTMENTS OF THE COUNTIES OF HAWAII,  
KAUAI, AND MAUI, AND THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU TO  
CONTINUE TAKING AFFIRMATIVE STEPS TOWARDS IMPLEMENTING BEST  
PRACTICES IDENTIFIED IN MODEL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES TO  
INCREASE THE ACCURACY OF EYEWITNESS IDENTIFICATION AND  
INTERROGATION OF SUSPECTS IN CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS.

1           WHEREAS, the integrity of the State's criminal justice  
2 process is enhanced and preserved by periodically updating best  
3 practices in gathering evidence; and  
4

5           WHEREAS, the goal of a police investigation is to apprehend  
6 the person or persons responsible for the commission of a crime  
7 to protect the public safety and welfare; and  
8

9           WHEREAS, more accurate eyewitness identification and  
10 confession evidence increases the ability of police and  
11 prosecutors to convict the guilty and protect the innocent; and  
12

13           WHEREAS, on a national level, mistaken eyewitness  
14 identification has been demonstrated to have contributed to a  
15 wrongful conviction in approximately 75 percent, and false  
16 confessions have contributed to 25 percent, of the 312  
17 exonerations that have been recorded nation-wide since 1989; and  
18

19           WHEREAS, over the past 30 years a large body of peer-  
20 reviewed, scientific research and practices have emerged showing  
21 that simple systemic changes in administering eyewitness  
22 identification procedures can greatly improve the accuracy of  
23 eyewitness identification; and  
24

25           WHEREAS, the police departments of the counties of Hawaii,  
26 Kauai, and Maui, and the City and County of Honolulu have taken  
27 affirmative steps towards implementing those best practices  
28 identified in model policies and procedures to improve the



1 accuracy of eyewitness identifications and confession evidence,  
2 such as those recommended by the Community Alliance on Prisons,  
3 Hawaii Innocence Project, American Bar Association, and  
4 International Association of Chiefs of Police; and  
5

6 WHEREAS, the people of Hawaii would benefit from the  
7 adoption of periodically updated best practices identified in  
8 model policies and procedures, which result in an improvement in  
9 the accuracy of eyewitness identifications and confession  
10 evidence; now, therefore,  
11

12 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
13 Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular  
14 Session of 2014, the Senate concurring, that the police  
15 departments of the counties of Hawaii, Kauai, and Maui, and the  
16 City and County of Honolulu be strongly encouraged to continue  
17 taking affirmative steps towards implementing those best  
18 practices, and any future best practices, identified in model  
19 policies and procedures to improve the accuracy of eyewitness  
20 identifications and confession evidence; and  
21

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the police departments of the  
23 counties of Hawaii, Kauai, and Maui, and the City and County of  
24 Honolulu be commended for taking affirmative steps towards  
25 implementing those best practices identified in model policies  
26 and procedures to improve the accuracy of eyewitness  
27 identifications and confession evidence;;  
28

29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
30 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the chiefs of police for  
31 the counties of Hawaii, Kauai, and Maui, and the City and County  
32 of Honolulu; and the prosecuting attorneys for the counties of  
33 Hawaii, Kauai, and Maui, and the City and County of Honolulu.  
34  
35  
36  
37

