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# SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE CONVENING OF AN EARLY CHILDHOOD SEXUAL ABUSE  
WORKING GROUP TO ADDRESS AND REDUCE CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE IN  
HAWAII.

1 WHEREAS, while child sexual abuse statistics vary, most  
2 research studies show between seventeen and twenty-five percent  
3 of girls and between seven and sixteen percent of boys will  
4 experience sexual abuse before the age of eighteen; and  
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6 WHEREAS, the emotional and physical pain suffered in  
7 childhood often results in depression, drug addiction, suicide,  
8 teenage pregnancy, and juvenile delinquency; and  
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10 WHEREAS, child sexual abuse crosses the boundaries of every  
11 economic level and ethnic and religious group; and  
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13 WHEREAS, an early childhood sexual abuse working group  
14 should be convened to identify the means of addressing early  
15 childhood sexual abuse and create strategies for reducing child  
16 sexual abuse in Hawaii; now, therefore,  
17

18 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-eighth  
19 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2016,  
20 that the Department of Human Services is requested to convene an  
21 early childhood sexual abuse working group to identify the means  
22 of addressing early childhood sexual abuse and create strategies  
23 for reducing child sexual abuse in Hawaii; and  
24

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the early childhood sexual  
26 abuse working group be composed of the following members: Chair  
27 of the Senate Committee on Human Services; Chair of the House  
28 Committee on Human Services; Director of Health or the  
29 Director's designee; Director of Human Services, or the  
30 Director's designee; Superintendent of Education, or the  
31 Superintendent's designee; a representative from the Early  
32 Intervention Section of the Department of Health; a  
33 representative from Prevent Child Abuse Hawaii; representatives



1 of direct service providers; representatives from the preschool  
2 community; representatives of health care providers, including  
3 pediatricians; and representatives from additional state  
4 agencies; and

5  
6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in devising strategies to  
7 reduce child sexual abuse, it is requested that the working  
8 group:

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- 10 (1) Gather information concerning child sexual abuse  
11 throughout the State;
  - 12  
13 (2) Hold public meetings to receive or discuss reports and  
14 testimony from individuals, state and local agencies,  
15 community-based organizations, and other public and  
16 private organizations; and
  - 17  
18 (3) Create goals for a state policy that would prevent  
19 early childhood sexual abuse and improve detection,  
20 identification, and response to early childhood sexual  
21 abuse; and

22  
23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the early childhood sexual  
24 abuse working group is requested to report its findings and  
25 recommendations to the Legislature no later than twenty days  
26 prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2017; and

27  
28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
29 Resolution be transmitted to the Chair of the Senate Committee  
30 on Human Services, Chair of the House Committee on Human  
31 Services, Director of Health, Director of Human Services,  
32 Superintendent of Education, and Prevent Child Abuse Hawaii.

