

MAR 10 2017

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING EACH OF THE SEVERAL COUNTIES TO ASSESS THE ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF COUNTY POLICE COMMISSIONS, ESPECIALLY WITH REGARD TO POLICE MISCONDUCT ISSUES.

1 WHEREAS, the Honolulu Police Department was heavily
2 criticized by lawmakers and the public in the wake of a
3 September 2014 high-profile incident involving an off-duty
4 Honolulu Police Department sergeant, whose actions sparked
5 concern about the manner in which police handle domestic
6 violence cases and triggered an informational briefing at the
7 State Capitol; and

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9 WHEREAS, residents in the State should be able to rely on
10 the county police departments being held accountable for the
11 actions of county police officers; and

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13 WHEREAS, outside oversight and police department
14 transparency are vital to ensuring ongoing community trust in
15 the county police departments; and

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17 WHEREAS, county police commissions, created pursuant to
18 state law, are a matter of statewide concern; and

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20 WHEREAS, the duties of each county police commission are
21 prescribed by the charter of each county; and

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23 WHEREAS, while the charters of the several counties grant
24 the county police commissions the authority to investigate
25 police misconduct, the commissions lack the authority to direct
26 administrative decisions, even when egregious officer misconduct
27 is proven to have occurred; now, therefore,

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29 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-ninth
30 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2017, the
31 House of Representatives concurring, that the several counties
32 are requested to assess the roles and responsibilities of county



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1 police commissions, especially with regard to police misconduct
2 issues; and

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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that if a county determines that
5 amendments should be made to its respective police commission's
6 roles and responsibilities, then that county is respectfully
7 urged to take appropriate action to adopt such amendments; and

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9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
10 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Mayor and the Chair
11 of the Council of each county.
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OFFERED BY: Clarence K. Mishihiro

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