HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE, 2019 STATE OF HAWAII

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H.C.R. NO. 58

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO DEVELOP A MOBILE APPLICATION FOR REPORTING CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT.

WHEREAS, according to the Hawaii Department of Human
Services, 3,534 reports of child abuse were made in 2017 and
1,274 of these reports were confirmed instances of child abuse
or neglect; and

6 WHEREAS, in most cases, reporting child abuse or neglect is 7 the only way for law enforcement and support services to rescue 8 children from harmful environments, provide victims with 9 resources toward safety and healing, and bring perpetrators of 10 abuse to justice; and

12 WHEREAS, in 2018, the Mississippi Department of Child 13 Protective Services launched a first-in-the-nation smartphone 14 application that allows people to report suspected child abuse 15 or neglect; and

WHEREAS, in January 2019, the Hawaii Department of Education expanded the way students can report bullying by launching the Speak Now HIDOE mobile application, which allows students to instantly report bullying incidents on campus to school officials with an option to submit the report anonymously; and

24 WHEREAS, a mobile application provides a more convenient 25 and anonymous way to report suspected cases of child abuse and 26 neglect and can expedite the process of relieving children from 27 abusive situations; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of theThirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of



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2019, the Senate concurring, that the Department of Human
Services in conjunction with the Department of Education is
requested to develop a mobile application to report suspected
child abuse or neglect and to encourage parents, guardians,
students, and teachers to download the application; and

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the application should include, 8 but not be limited to, fields to provide the victim's 9 information, the suspect's information, and the option to report 10 anonymously; and

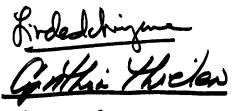
12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this 13 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, the Director of Human 14 Services, the Chairperson of the Board of Education, the 15 Superintendent of Education, the Director of Public Safety, and 16 the Office of Enterprise Technology Services.

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