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## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE HAWAII STATE COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN TO  
CONVENE A TASK FORCE TO CONDUCT A STUDY ON MISSING AND  
MURDERED NATIVE HAWAIIAN WOMEN AND GIRLS AND TO SUBMIT A  
REPORT ON THE STUDY TO THE LEGISLATURE.

1           WHEREAS, indigenous women and girls are victims of violence  
2 at far greater rates than any other population in the United  
3 States; and  
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5           WHEREAS, women and children in Hawaii are facing a  
6 widespread epidemic of violence and sex trafficking; and  
7

8           WHEREAS, First Nations in Canada organized a mass movement  
9 to expose the crisis of missing and murdered indigenous women  
10 and girls, which led to a national report and declaration of a  
11 national emergency; and  
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13           WHEREAS, the Urban Indian Health Institute published the  
14 report "Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women and Girls: A  
15 snapshot of data from 71 urban cities in the United States" in  
16 2018 to document the crisis of missing and murdered indigenous  
17 women and girls in the United States; and  
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19           WHEREAS, this report did not include Hawaii nor any  
20 information on Native Hawaiian women and girls; and  
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22           WHEREAS, Native Hawaiian women as a group are more  
23 economically vulnerable than Native Hawaiian men, earning  
24 seventy cents for every dollar a man makes, and seventy-nine  
25 cents for every dollar a Native Hawaiian man makes; and  
26

27           WHEREAS, historical trauma has increased the vulnerability  
28 of Native Hawaiian women and girls to sex trafficking and other  
29 forms of violent crimes; and  
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1 WHEREAS, harmful colonial stereotypes have resulted in the  
2 sexual fetishization of Native Hawaiian women; and

3  
4 WHEREAS, Native Hawaiian women, girls, and Native Hawaiian  
5 members of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer  
6 community disproportionately experience factors that put them at  
7 high risk of being victims of sex trafficking and being involved  
8 with the sex industry; and

9  
10 WHEREAS, State government agencies are required by various  
11 federal and state laws to tackle sex trafficking and collect  
12 data; and

13  
14 WHEREAS, the Office of Hawaiian Affairs published the  
15 report "Haumea: Transforming the Health of Native Hawaiian  
16 Women and Empowering Wahine Well-Being" in 2018, and noted there  
17 was no data specific to the human trafficking of Native Hawaiian  
18 women and girls; and

19  
20 WHEREAS, the Hawaii State Commission on the Status of  
21 Women, in partnership with Arizona State University, surveyed  
22 sex trafficking victims and found that in 2018, seventy-seven  
23 percent were Native Hawaiian, and then subsequently found that  
24 sixty-four percent were Native Hawaiian in 2019; and

25  
26 WHEREAS, from 2017 to 2019, one out of every three child  
27 sex trafficking victims reported to the Child Welfare Services  
28 child sex trafficking hotline were Native Hawaiian, and ninety-  
29 five percent were girls; and

30  
31 WHEREAS, family members must often rely on alert mechanisms  
32 for missing children, including physical message boards at  
33 stores and social media outlets; and

34  
35 WHEREAS, the State should be listening to Native Hawaiians  
36 and identifying ways to increase reporting on missing and  
37 murdered Native Hawaiian women and girls; and

38  
39 WHEREAS, nine states have passed legislation to address the  
40 missing and murdered indigenous women and girl crisis; now,  
41 therefore,



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1 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
2 Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of  
3 2020, the Senate concurring, that the Hawaii State Commission on  
4 the Status of Women is requested to convene a task force to  
5 conduct a study on the following regarding missing and murdered  
6 Native Hawaiian women and girls:

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- 8 (1) Identifying the cause of the problem;
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- 10 (2) Identifying current databases and data collection  
11 methods;
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- 13 (3) Identifying barriers to data collection and  
14 information sharing;
- 15
- 16 (4) Creating partnerships to increase reporting and  
17 investigations; and
- 18
- 19 (5) Recommending any legislation to improve data  
20 collection and sharing to eliminate harm to indigenous  
21 women and girls; and
- 22

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force be comprised of  
24 the following members or their designees:

- 25
- 26 (1) The Executive Director of the Hawaii State Commission  
27 on the Status of Women, who shall serve as the chair  
28 of the task force;
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- 30 (2) The Director of Health;
- 31
- 32 (3) The Director of Human Services;
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- 34 (4) The Administrative Director of the Courts;
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- 36 (5) The Attorney General;
- 37
- 38 (6) The Chairs of the County Committee on the Status of  
39 Women from each respective county; and
- 40
- 41 (7) The Chief of Police from each respective county; and
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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force further include  
2 the following members, or their designees, who shall be  
3 nonvoting members:

- 4 (1) One representative from Papa Ola Lokahi;
- 5 (2) One representative from the Sex Abuse Treatment  
6 Center;
- 7 (3) One representative from Hale Kipa;
- 8 (4) One representative from Residential Youth Services and  
9 Empowerment;
- 10 (5) One representative from Susannah Wesley Community  
11 Center; and
- 12 (6) One representative from Ho'ōla Nā Pua; and

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20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force may invite  
21 additional organizations or agencies to participate in the task  
22 force; and

23  
24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hawaii State Commission on  
25 the Status of Women is requested to provide administrative  
26 support for the task force; and

27  
28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force submit a  
29 preliminary report of its finding and recommendations, including  
30 any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than  
31 twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of  
32 2022, and a final report, including any additional proposed  
33 legislation, no later than twenty days prior to the convening of  
34 the Regular Session of 2023; and

35  
36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
37 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Health,  
38 Director of Human Services, Attorney General, Administrative  
39 Director of the Courts, Executive Director of the Hawaii State  
40 Commission on the Status of Women, Chairs of each County  
41 Committee on the Status of Women, Chiefs of Police of each  
42 county, Executive Director of Papa Ola Lokahi, Executive



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1 Director of the Sex Abuse Treatment Center, Chief Executive  
 2 Officer of Hale Kipa, Executive Director of Residential Youth  
 3 Services and Empowerment, President of the Susannah Wesley  
 4 Community Center, and President of Ho'ola Nā Pua.

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 6  
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OFFERED BY:

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MAR 06 2020

