
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY TO CONDUCT A STUDY ON
THE EFFECTS OF FELONY DISENFRANCHISEMENT, PARTICULARLY THE
EFFECTS ON MINORITY GROUPS.

1 WHEREAS, disenfranchisement of persons following felony
2 criminal convictions undermines democratic ideals by depriving
3 otherwise-qualified citizens of their right to vote; and
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5 WHEREAS, according to the National Association for the
6 Advancement of Colored People, disenfranchisement based on
7 criminal conviction has a disproportionate effect on communities
8 of color, which often experience a higher incarceration rate
9 than white communities; and
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11 WHEREAS, many of the state laws that bar people with felony
12 convictions from voting stem from a time in America's history
13 where southern states were working to neutralize the black
14 electorate; and
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16 WHEREAS, in 2010, the Office of Hawaiian Affairs released
17 the study "The Disparate Treatment of Native Hawaiians in the
18 Criminal Justice System," which found that Native Hawaiians make
19 up thirty-nine percent of the incarcerated population, but only
20 twenty-four percent of the general population and twenty-five
21 percent of arrestees; now, therefore,
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23 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
24 Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of
25 2020, the Senate concurring, that the Department of Public
26 Safety is requested to conduct a study on the effects of felony
27 disenfranchisement, particularly the effects on minority groups;
28 and
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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Public Safety
 2 submit a report of its findings, including any proposed
 3 legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior
 4 to the convening of the Regular Session of 2021; and
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6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 7 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to Director of Public
 8 Safety.
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OFFERED BY:

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H.C.R. NO. 47

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~~7-7-20~~

~~Ms. A.H.~~

~~James King~~

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FEB 18 2020

