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## HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CONVENE A TASK FORCE TO CONSOLIDATE DATA AND INFORMATION REGARDING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN INTO A COMPREHENSIVE ANNUAL REPORT TO STRENGTHEN THE STATE'S OVERALL RESPONSE TO VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN.

1           WHEREAS, the Legislature finds that intimate partner  
2 violence, domestic violence, and sexual violence remains an  
3 ongoing concern to the safety, health, and well-being of women;  
4 and

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6           WHEREAS, violence against women is a complex societal issue  
7 that negatively impacts women's physical, mental, sexual, and  
8 reproductive health causing detrimental risk factors such as  
9 engaging in binge drinking, drug use and unsafe sexual risk:  
10 all behaviors likely to affect women's access to education,  
11 ability to work, and contribute to loss of wages that can lead  
12 to mental health problems such as depression; and

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14           WHEREAS, the devastating impact of violence can lead to the  
15 inability of women to care for themselves and their children;  
16 and

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18           WHEREAS, children who grow up in families where there is  
19 violence may also suffer behavioral and emotional trauma that  
20 can lead to the perpetration of violence or becoming a victim of  
21 violence; and

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23           WHEREAS, on a state level, the average annual number of  
24 cases in the Department of Health's Emergency Medical Services  
25 and Injury Prevention System Branch Pre-Hospital Medical Record  
26 system from 2013 through 2015 that involved intimate partner  
27 violence against females ages twelve to fifty years was 718 in  
28 the City and County of Honolulu, 116 in Hawaii county, 105 in  
29 Maui county, and 26 in Kauai county; and

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31           WHEREAS, according to a 2017 report by the Centers for  
32 Disease Control and Prevention, in the killing of women



1 nationally where the circumstances were known, more than fifty  
2 percent of the victims of intimate partner violence-related  
3 homicide had reported experiencing prior acts of violence in the  
4 month preceding death; and

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6 WHEREAS, when the cumulative impacts on mortality and  
7 morbidity are assessed, the health burden from evidence against  
8 women is often higher than for other public health priorities;  
9 and

10  
11 WHEREAS, there is a need for a comprehensive report in  
12 order to ensure all information is considered when finding how  
13 best to address public health issues relating to violence  
14 against women; and

15  
16 WHEREAS, Hawaii lacks any such comprehensive report and  
17 instead addresses the issues of domestic violence, sexual  
18 assault, harassment, and sex trafficking largely in isolation;  
19 now, therefore,

20  
21 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
22 Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of  
23 2020, that the Department of Health is requested to convene a  
24 task force to create a format for a comprehensive annual report  
25 to identify the best policy approach to reduce violence against  
26 women; and

27  
28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to  
29 include the following members:

- 30  
31 (1) The Director of Health, or the Director's designee,  
32 who is requested to serve as the chair of the task  
33 force;  
34  
35 (2) The Director of Human Services, or the Director's  
36 designee;  
37  
38 (3) The Administrator of the Judiciary, or the  
39 Administrator's designee;  
40  
41 (4) The Attorney General, or the Attorney General's  
42 designee;



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- 2 (5) The Prosecuting Attorney from each respective county,
- 3 or the Prosecuting Attorney's designee;
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- 5 (6) The Chief of Police from each respective county, or
- 6 the Chief of Police's designee;
- 7
- 8 (7) The Executive Director of the Sex Abuse Treatment
- 9 Center, or the Executive Director's designee;
- 10
- 11 (8) A representative from the Hawaii State Coalition
- 12 Against Domestic Violence, or a similar victim
- 13 advocacy organization invited by the chair of the task
- 14 force; and
- 15
- 16 (9) A representative from Ho'ōla Nā Pua invited by the
- 17 chair of the task force; and
- 18

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

22

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall consider  
24 the following concepts when researching and reviewing current  
25 data and information and making recommendations for the  
26 establishment of an annual report;

- 27
- 28 (1) Each agency or organization's existing databases and
- 29 information regarding different forms of violence
- 30 against women, including the number of entities
- 31 holding such data, and the ability to share
- 32 information or metadata;
- 33
- 34 (2) Existing gaps in data regarding violence against
- 35 women;
- 36
- 37 (3) Updates to laws or policies needed, if any, to permit
- 38 the consolidation of such data; and
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- 40 (4) The framework of an annual report that can provide
- 41 guidance to improve programs, outcomes, and the
- 42 reduction of violence against women; and



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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Health is requested to provide administrative support for the task force; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force submit a report of its findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2021, and a follow-up report, including any additional proposed legislation, no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2022; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Health; Director of Human Services; Administrator of the Judiciary; Executive Director of the Hawaii State Coalition Against Domestic Violence; Prosecuting Attorney for the City and County of Honolulu and the Counties of Hawaii, Kauai, and Maui; Attorney General; Chief of Police of the City and County of Honolulu and the Counties of Hawaii, Kauai, and Maui; Executive Director of the Sex Abuse Treatment Center; Hawaii State Coalition Against Domestic Violence; and Ho'ōla Nā Pua.

OFFERED BY: Melanie K. Nader

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H.R. NO. 15

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JAN 17 2020

