

MAR - 3 2020

SENATE 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
4

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
12

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
18

19 WHEREAS, this report did not include Hawaii nor any
20 information on Native Hawaiian women and girls; and
21

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
30



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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 Senate of the Thirtieth Legislature
2 of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2020, the House of
3 Representatives 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:

- 7
- 8 (1) Identifying the cause of the problem;
- 9
- 10 (2) Identifying current databases and data collection
11 methods;
- 12
- 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 comprise the
24 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;
- 29
- 30 (2) The Director of Health;
- 31
- 32 (3) The Director of Human Services;
- 33
- 34 (4) The Administrative Director of the Courts;
- 35
- 36 (5) The Attorney General;
- 37
- 38 (6) The Chairs of the County Committee on the Status of
39 Women from each respective county;
- 40
- 41 (7) The Chiefs of Police from each respective county;
- 42



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- 1 (8) One representative from Papa Ola Lokahi;
- 2
- 3 (9) One representative from the Sex Abuse Treatment
- 4 Center;
- 5
- 6 (10) One representative from Hale Kipa;
- 7
- 8 (11) One representative from Residential Youth Services and
- 9 Empowerment;
- 10
- 11 (12) One representative from Susannah Wesley Community
- 12 Center; and
- 13
- 14 (13) One representative from Ho'ōla Nā Pua; and
- 15

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force may invite
17 additional organizations or agencies to participate in the task
18 force; and

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20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hawaii State Commission on
21 the Status of Women is requested to provide administrative
22 support for the task force; and

23

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

31


32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
33 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Health,
34 Director of Human Services, Attorney General, Administrative
35 Director of the Courts, Executive Director of the Hawaii State
36 Commission on the Status of Women, Chairs of each County
37 Committee on the Status of Women, Chiefs of Police of each
38 county, Executive Director of Papa Ola Lokahi, Executive
39 Director of the Sex Abuse Treatment Center, Chief Executive
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1 Officer of Hale Kipa, Executive Director of Residential Youth
2 Services and Empowerment, President of the Susannah Wesley
3 Community Center, and President of Ho'ōla Nā Pua.

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OFFERED BY: 


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