

JAN 21 2020

SENATE CONCURRENT 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

13
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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1 WHEREAS, according to a 2017 report by the Centers for
2 Disease Control and Prevention, in the killing of women
3 nationally where the circumstances were known, more than fifty
4 percent of the victims of intimate partner violence-related
5 homicide had reported experiencing prior acts of violence in the
6 month preceding death; and

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

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

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

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

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

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- 33 (1) The Director of Health, or the Director's designee,
34 who is requested to serve as the chair of the task
35 force;
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 - 37 (2) The Director of Human Services, or the Director's
38 designee;
 - 39
 - 40 (3) The Administrator of the Judiciary, or the
41 Administrator's designee;
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- 1 (4) The Attorney General, or the Attorney General's
2 designee;
- 3
- 4 (5) The Prosecuting Attorney from each respective county,
5 or the Prosecuting Attorney's designee;
- 6
- 7 (6) The Chief of Police from each respective county, or
8 the Chief of Police's designee;
- 9
- 10 (7) The Executive Director of the Sex Abuse Treatment
11 Center, or the Executive Director's designee;
- 12
- 13 (8) A representative from the Hawaii State Coalition
14 Against Domestic Violence, or a similar victim
15 advocacy organization invited by the chair of the task
16 force; and
- 17
- 18 (9) A representative from Ho'ōla Nā Pua invited by the
19 chair of the task force; and
- 20

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

24

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

- 29
- 30 (1) Each agency or organization's existing databases and
31 information regarding different forms of violence
32 against women, including the number of entities
33 holding such data, and the ability to share
34 information or metadata;
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- 36 (2) Existing gaps in data regarding violence against
37 women;
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- 39 (3) Updates to laws or policies needed, if any, to permit
40 the consolidation of such data; and
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1 (4) The framework of an annual report that can provide
 2 guidance to improve programs, outcomes, and the
 3 reduction of violence against women; and
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5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Health is
 6 requested to provide administrative support for the task force;
 7 and
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9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force submit a report
 10 of its findings and recommendations, including any proposed
 11 legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior
 12 to the convening of the Regular Session of 2021, and a follow-up
 13 report, including any additional proposed legislation, no later
 14 than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session
 15 of 2022; and
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17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 18 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Health;
 19 Director of Human Services; Administrator of the Judiciary;
 20 Executive Director of the Hawaii State Coalition Against
 21 Domestic Violence; Prosecuting Attorney for the City and County
 22 of Honolulu and the Counties of Hawaii, Kauai, and Maui;
 23 Attorney General; Chief of Police of the City and County of
 24 Honolulu and the Counties of Hawaii, Kauai, and Maui; Executive
 25 Director of the Sex Abuse Treatment Center; Hawaii State
 26 Coalition Against Domestic Violence; and Ho'ōla Nā Pua.
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