

JAN 21 2020

SENATE 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

5
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

17
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

22
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

30
31 WHEREAS, according to a 2017 report by the Centers for
32 Disease Control and Prevention, in the killing of women



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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

5
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 Senate of the Thirtieth Legislature
22 of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2020, that the
23 Department of Health is requested to convene a task force to
24 create a format for a comprehensive annual report to identify
25 the best policy approach to reduce violence against women; and

26
27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to
28 include the following members:

- 29
30 (1) The Director of Health, or the Director's designee,
31 who is requested to serve as the chair of the task
32 force;
- 33
34 (2) The Director of Human Services, or the Director's
35 designee;
- 36
37 (3) The Administrator of the Judiciary, or the
38 Administrator's designee;
- 39
40 (4) The Attorney General, or the Attorney General's
41 designee;
- 42



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

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

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

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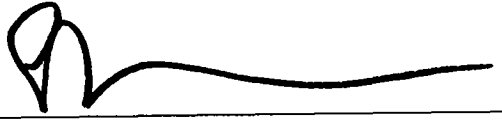
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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Health is
 2 requested to provide administrative support for the task force;
 3 and

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

12
 13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 14 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Health; Director of
 15 Human Services; Administrator of the Judiciary; Executive
 16 Director of the Hawaii State Coalition Against Domestic
 17 Violence; Prosecuting Attorney for the City and County of
 18 Honolulu and the Counties of Hawaii, Kauai, and Maui; Attorney
 19 General; Chief of Police of the City and County of Honolulu and
 20 the Counties of Hawaii, Kauai, and Maui; Executive Director of
 21 the Sex Abuse Treatment Center; Hawaii State Coalition Against
 22 Domestic Violence; and Ho'ōla Nā Pua.

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