
HOUSE RESOLUTION

URGING THE JUDICIARY TO ASSIGN ONE JUDGE FOR THE HOPE PROBATION PROGRAM.

1 WHEREAS, in 2004, retired First Circuit Judge Steven Alm
2 launched the nation's first high-intensity supervision pilot
3 program, HOPE Probation (Hawaii's Opportunity Probation with
4 Enforcement), to reduce probation violations by drug offenders
5 and others at high risk of recidivism; and
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7 WHEREAS, probationers in HOPE Probation are supposed to
8 receive swift, predictable, and immediate sanctions - typically
9 resulting in several days in jail - for each detected violation,
10 such as detected drug use or missed appointments with a
11 probation officer; and
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13 WHEREAS, effective implementation of the HOPE Probation
14 strategy produces short-term and long-term positive outcomes for
15 high-risk probationers as well as state and local communities;
16 and
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18 WHEREAS, according to a 2007 evaluation, HOPE Probation
19 offenders at their one-year follow up were seventy-two percent
20 less likely to test positive for illegal drugs, sixty-one
21 percent less likely to skip appointments with their supervisory
22 officer, fifty-five percent less likely to be arrested for a new
23 crime, and fifty-three percent less likely to have their
24 probation revoked when compared to offenders on standard
25 probation; and
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27 WHEREAS, long-term positive outcomes for probationers
28 include prison avoidance, reduced probationary periods,
29 sustained abstinence from alcohol and drugs, improved health,
30 reduced criminal recidivism, greater employment and income, and
31 ultimately an improved quality of life; and
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1 WHEREAS, for state and local communities, these outcomes
2 result in reduced crime, fewer costly imprisonments, reduced
3 costs to the criminal justice system, an increase in the number
4 of working individuals who pay taxes, and the repayment of
5 court-ordered restitution for victims; and

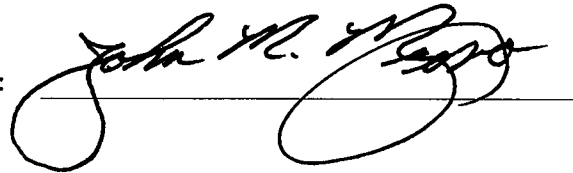
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7 WHEREAS, several judges are currently assigned to HOPE
8 Probation cases, which is inundating the judges' calendars and
9 leading to widespread and inconsistent decisions; and

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11 WHEREAS, to improve consistency and ease logistics, all
12 HOPE Probation cases should be consolidated to one judge; now,
13 therefore,

14
15 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
16 Thirty-first Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
17 of 2022, that the Judiciary is urged to assign one judge for the
18 HOPE Probation Program to ensure expedited and timely cases are
19 heard and decided and to ensure consistency in judicial hearings
20 and decisions; and

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22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this
23 Resolution be transmitted to the Chief Justice of the Hawaii
24 State Supreme Court.

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27 OFFERED BY:



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