
HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES TO ESTABLISH A ONE-YEAR PILOT PROGRAM TO PROVIDE A BASIC INCOME TO QUALIFIED ADULTS WHO ARE VERIFIED VICTIMS OF SEX TRAFFICKING OR WHO ARE FEMALE OR SEXUAL AND GENDER MINORITY INDIVIDUALS SEEKING TO EXIT THE SEX TRADE.

1 WHEREAS, mainstream American feminism has focused on the
2 right to engage in prostitution, thus overshadowing indigenous
3 and transnational feminists' call for women and the lesbian,
4 gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer ohana to have the right to
5 refuse to engage in prostitution or endure recurring sexual
6 assault to survive; and

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8 WHEREAS, Native Hawaiian women, women of color, and sexual
9 and gender identity minorities deserve the same right as
10 affluent, college-educated, or white women to exit the sex trade;
11 and

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13 WHEREAS, the right to exit prostitution does not
14 meaningfully exist for most individuals in the sex trade; and

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16 WHEREAS, the right to leave patriarchal institutions is one
17 of the rights that is most often denied to women; and

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19 WHEREAS, an appropriate alternative would be to establish a
20 pilot program to support the economic survival of those wanting
21 to exit this patriarchal system, thereby addressing the tendency
22 of many social institutions to criminalize those who are forced
23 to engage in prostitution and instead encourage compassion for
24 individuals ensnared in the sex trade; now, therefore,

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26 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
27 Thirty-first Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
28 of 2022, that the Department of Human Services is requested to
29 establish a one-year pilot program to provide a basic income to
30 qualified adults who are verified victims of sex trafficking or



1 who are female or sexual and gender minority individuals seeking
2 to exit the sex trade; and

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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, to the extent possible, the
5 Department of Human Services is requested to administer the
6 pilot program in the following manner:

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8 (1) The target number of program applicants should be two
9 hundred fifty;
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11 (2) A program applicant should:
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13 (A) Be a Hawaii resident who is eighteen years of age
14 or older;
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16 (B) Demonstrate the applicant's status as a victim of
17 sex trafficking or as a female or sexual and
18 gender minority individual seeking to exit the
19 sex trade; and
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21 (C) Provide documentation, from a nonprofit
22 organization, community-based program, or other
23 organization that provides housing, shelter,
24 education, substance abuse counseling, or
25 gender-based violence support for victims of sex
26 trafficking or prostitution, that attests to the
27 applicant's status in subparagraph (B);
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29 (3) The personal information of program applicants and
30 participants, including name, age, date of birth, and
31 contact information, should be kept confidential
32 within the Department of Human Services and should not
33 be disclosed to any member of the public;
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35 (4) Applicants should not be required to seek employment
36 or further education to be eligible to participate in
37 the pilot program; and
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39 (5) Each qualified applicant should receive a basic
40 monthly income of \$2,000 for a period of up to one
41 year; provided that the basic monthly income provided
42 by the pilot program should be exempt from state



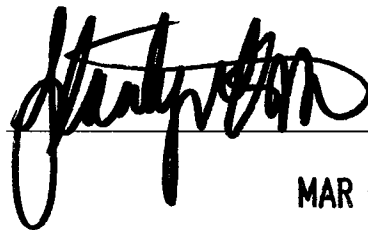
income taxes and, to the extent permissible under federal law, should be exempt from being considered income for the purposes of determining eligibility and benefit amounts under relevant public assistance, social services, and financial aid programs; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Human Services is requested to terminate the pilot program after one year of operation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Human Services is requested to submit a report of its findings and recommendations regarding the pilot program, including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2024; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Governor and Director of Human Services.

OFFERED BY:



MAR - 9 2022

