
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO RESTORE FUNDING TO
CERTAIN SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER TREATMENT ORGANIZATIONS THAT
PROVIDE SERVICES FOR RESIDENTIAL, OUTPATIENT, AND ADULT AND
ADOLESCENT SCHOOL-BASED PROGRAMS IN FISCAL YEARS 2022-2023
AND 2023-2024.

1 WHEREAS, all citizens possess the basic human right to the
2 preservation of personal dignity; and
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4 WHEREAS, all citizens deserve the investment of every
5 possible resource to ensure lasting physical, mental, and
6 emotional well-being; and
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8 WHEREAS, every child deserves to live a good life; to have
9 a healthy body, a clear mind, loving family and friends; and the
10 freedom to make the choices that are best for themselves --
11 choices that open doors to new passions, opportunities, and a
12 bright future; and
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14 WHEREAS, teenagers' brains and bodies are still growing
15 while learning how to make smart choices, control impulses, and
16 live a respectful life, which can be short circuited by drugs
17 and alcohol; and
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19 WHEREAS, chronic and severe substance use disorders (SUDs)
20 lead to liver damage, liver failure, seizures, stroke, mental
21 confusion, lung disease, and cardiological problems, in addition
22 to problems with memory, attention, and decision-making, thus
23 making daily living difficult; and
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25 WHEREAS, the most serious SUD is addiction, which can cause
26 an afflicted person to engage in heavy drug use that, in turn,
27 causes low mental health function; and
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1 WHEREAS, due to this impairment of brain function, an
2 afflicted person is driven to the uncontrollable use of the
3 addictive substance, despite its harmful impacts, including the
4 substantial impairment of day-to-day life; and
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6 WHEREAS, often, a person afflicted with addiction cannot
7 stop heavy drug use even if they want and try to. Changes in
8 brain structure may cause intense cravings; changes in
9 personality; abnormal behaviors that affect judgment,
10 decision-making, learning, memory, and behavioral control, which
11 can last a long time and, if left untreated, becomes one of the
12 leading causes of preventable illnesses and premature death; and
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14 WHEREAS, severe SUDs experienced by pregnant women can
15 impact the development of their infants and can lead to both
16 pre- and postnatal complications, be a detriment to both the
17 mother and child's physical and mental well-being, and places
18 the child at risk for future substance use; and
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20 WHEREAS, SUDs are complex but treatable diseases that
21 affect brain function and behavior; and
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23 WHEREAS, no single treatment is right for every person
24 suffering from addiction, and those with the most severe
25 conditions need to have quick access to appropriate treatment
26 when the opportunity arises or when motivation is present; and
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28 WHEREAS, patients or clients can live a drug-free, crime-
29 free lifestyle after treatment; and
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31 WHEREAS, studies indicate that residential treatment
32 programs are most effective for patients suffering from chronic
33 and severe SUDs and that there are very rare alternative
34 interventions that could meet this special population's needs;
35 and
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37 WHEREAS, studies from the American Society of Addiction
38 Medicine have determined that a chronic SUD diagnosis needs
39 abstinence-based residential treatment for a minimum of thirty to
40 ninety days; and
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1 WHEREAS, pregnant and parenting women who suffer from SUDs
2 have complex needs such as addressing co-occurring mental health
3 disorders and managing medical conditions, such as high risk
4 pregnancy and relationship building, particularly with regards
5 to parenting, that are best addressed within residential and
6 outpatient treatment, including therapeutic housing; and
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8 WHEREAS, SUD treatment programs are becoming more advanced
9 in treating people with co-occurring mental health disorders by
10 helping people with symptom management training and providing
11 medications (psychopharmacology), while also addressing co-
12 morbidity health illnesses; and
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14 WHEREAS, in school-based environments, teachers play a key
15 role as part of the intervention process, as well as mentoring
16 during and after treatment, thereby helping to sustain positive
17 outcomes; and
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19 WHEREAS, substance abuse treatment programs in schools can
20 offer the expertise for providing special interventions for
21 youths, strengthening families, and empowering communities; and
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23 WHEREAS, through nationally recognized therapeutic
24 practices, treatment can also help students make positive
25 changes in their lives to address other health problems;
26 injuries from accidents, suicide, and family problems;
27 relationship issues; problems in schools; and even legal issues;
28 and
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30 WHEREAS, the loss of funding to and resulting shortened
31 treatment times and lowered rates for adult treatment and
32 school-based adolescent services to Hina Mauka (The Alcoholic
33 Rehabilitation Services of Hawaii); The Salvation Army Addiction
34 Treatment Services; The Salvation Army Family Treatment
35 Services; Po'ailani, Inc.; and Aloha House, Malama Family
36 Recovery Center, and Maui Youth & Family Services has caused
37 five hundred fifty adults to lose access to needed services, the
38 loss of school-based services to two hundred students per year,
39 and a fifty percent decrease in bed spaces available for
40 pregnant and parenting women to receive gender responsive
41 residential SUD treatment that they could engage in with their
42 infants or young children; and



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2 WHEREAS, these services are much needed and funding was
3 lost despite their excellent performance and outcomes; now,
4 therefore,

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6 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-first
7 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2022, the
8 House of Representatives concurring, that the Department of
9 Health is requested to restore funding to certain substance use
10 disorder treatment organizations that provide services for
11 residential, outpatient, and adult and adolescent school-based
12 programs in fiscal years 2022-2023 and 2023-2024; and

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14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Health is
15 requested to restore funding for:

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17 (1) Adult and adolescent school-based services treatment
18 services offered by Hina Mauka (The Alcoholic
19 Rehabilitation Services of Hawaii);
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21 (2) Adult services offered by The Salvation Army Addiction
22 Treatment Services;
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24 (3) Adult and children services provided by The Salvation
25 Army Family Treatment Services;
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27 (4) Subsidization of reduced rates for services provided
28 by Po'ailani, Inc. and the above-mentioned agencies;
29 and
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31 (5) School-based services provided by Aloha House, Malama
32 Family Recovery Center, and Maui Youth & Family
33 Services; and
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35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Health is
36 urged to develop a statewide plan to identify, coordinate, and
37 develop protocols for various forms of treatment, including both
38 evidenced-based practices and harm reduction practices that
39 would comprehensively help individuals and their families
40 receive timely access to appropriate and adequate treatment for
41 substance use disorders, including addiction as well as co-
42 occurring mental health disorders; and



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2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
3 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor and
4 Director of Health.

