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# SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE HONOLULU POLICE DEPARTMENT, IN CONJUNCTION WITH  
THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, TO ESTABLISH AND OPERATE A  
JUNIOR POLICE PROGRAM AT DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION HIGH  
SCHOOLS.

1           WHEREAS, the Honolulu Police Department is suffering from a  
2 chronic staffing shortage; and

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4           WHEREAS, as of May 2022, the Honolulu Police Department had  
5 1,828 sworn officers and three hundred forty-nine vacancies; and

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7           WHEREAS, worker shortages in the Honolulu Police Department  
8 leads to certain police beats understaffed; and

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10           WHEREAS, certain shifts in Department District 1, which  
11 includes Downtown Honolulu, Chinatown, and Kakaako, are staffed  
12 at only seventy-seven percent of its usual staffing needs; and

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14           WHEREAS, staffing shortages also limit the time police  
15 officers have to work with the community, preventing officers  
16 from building deep relationships with community members and  
17 business owners; and

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19           WHEREAS, the Honolulu Police Department is highly selective  
20 in its recruitment efforts to ensure that only the best, most  
21 qualified candidates become police officers that serve and  
22 protect local communities; and

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24           WHEREAS, in the last two years, just over five percent of  
25 the thousands of applicants who signed up to take the police  
26 entrance exam became police recruits; and

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28           WHEREAS, expanding the overall pool of quality applicants  
29 through a junior police pilot program at high schools will  
30 support the effort of the Honolulu Police Department to select  
31 qualified police recruits who meet the Department's high  
32 standards; now, therefore,



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BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2023, that the Honolulu Police Department, in conjunction with the Department of Education, is requested to establish and operate a Junior Police Pilot Program at Department of Education high schools; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Superintendent of Education and Chief of the Honolulu Police Department.

