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MAR 15 2006

SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE AUDITOR TO CONDUCT A MANAGEMENT AUDIT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES'S VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION AND SERVICES FOR THE BLIND DIVISION.

WHEREAS, the Department of Human Services is charged with the responsibility of providing vocational rehabilitation services for blind and handicapped persons in accordance with the federal Vocational Rehabilitation Act and the Randolph-Sheppard Act under sections 347-4 and 348-3, Hawaii Revised Statutes; and

WHEREAS, these vocational rehabilitation services are extensive and are delineated in section 348-2, Hawaii Revised Statutes; and

WHEREAS, the Division has been the subject of numerous complaints, including complaints from a number of organizations servicing the blind community about arbitrary decision-making by the administrator and the use of funds for inappropriate purposes; and

WHEREAS, the Division has experienced a very high level of turnover, especially during the past five years; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2006, that the Auditor is requested to perform a management audit of the Vocational Rehabilitation and Services for the Blind Division of the Department of Human Services; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Auditor is requested to include in the management audit:

(1) An assessment of management practices utilized by the Division to provide vocational rehabilitation services and to manage its personnel;

- (2) An evaluation as to whether the Division expends the funds available to it in an efficient and costeffective manner;
- (3) An evaluation of the Division's internal budgeting and fiscal controls and whether those controls ensure the effective and appropriate expenditure of legislative appropriations and federal funds;
- (4) An assessment of the Division's decision-making procedures; and
- (5) A description of the organizational structure of the Division, including programs, personnel practices, staffing coverage, and facilities;

and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Auditor is requested to report findings and recommendations to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2007; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, the Director of Human Services, the Administrator of the Vocational Rehabilitation and Services for the Blind Division, and the Auditor.

OFFERED BY:

Randy & Bal. The range Chun aalland