
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU TO STUDY CUSTODY
EVALUATOR TRAINING MODELS APPLIED BY OTHER JURISDICTIONS.

1 WHEREAS, in the 2006 Regular Session, the Legislature
2 adopted Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 52 authorizing the
3 Committees on Human Services of the Senate and House of
4 Representatives to convene interim hearings on the Hawaii Family
5 Court; and

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7 WHEREAS, the interim hearings were designed as a way to
8 make the Hawaii Family Court more accessible and family
9 friendly; and

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11 WHEREAS, during the course of these interim hearings, a
12 task force was established along with working groups, that
13 submitted their findings and recommendations to the larger task
14 force; and

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16 WHEREAS, while some of the working groups' recommendations
17 were adopted by the task force and have received legislative
18 attention, due to time constraints, there were other issues the
19 task force was unable to explore fully; and

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21 WHEREAS, one area the task force was unable to fully
22 explore is the issue of training and oversight of custody
23 evaluators both in the Hawaii family courts and in other
24 jurisdictions; and

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26 WHEREAS, being unable to fully explore and discuss custody
27 evaluator issues, the task force members are interested in
28 examining how other jurisdictions address training and oversight
29 of custody evaluators before determining a possible course of
30 action to take to improve custody evaluation in the Hawaii
31 family courts; now, therefore,

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1 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fourth
2 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2007, the
3 House of Representatives concurring, that the Legislative
4 Reference Bureau is requested to conduct a study on custody
5 evaluator models applied in other jurisdictions; and

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7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature requests that
8 the study include:

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10 (1) A review of other jurisdictions' statutes regarding
11 qualifications of custody evaluators;
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13 (2) A review of the process by which custody evaluators
14 are selected in other jurisdictions, for example, by
15 random selection, from a list, or by the client;
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17 (3) A review of custody evaluator training models in use
18 in other jurisdictions; and
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20 (4) A review of the types of mechanisms other
21 jurisdictions have in place for oversight of the
22 custody evaluation process; and
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24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Reference
25 Bureau is requested to report its findings and recommendations,
26 including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later
27 than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session
28 of 2008; and

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30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
31 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of the
32 Legislative Reference Bureau and the Chief Justice of the Hawaii
33 Supreme Court.

