

JAN 24 2007

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## SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

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REQUESTING THE COMMITTEES ON HUMAN SERVICES OF THE SENATE AND  
THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO CONVENE A TASK FORCE DURING  
THE INTERIM TO FURTHER STUDY AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS  
REGARDING FAMILY COURT CUSTODY EVALUATOR ISSUES.

1 WHEREAS, in the 2006 Regular Session, the Senate and the  
2 House of Representatives adopted Senate Concurrent Resolution  
3 No. 52, S.D. 1, authorizing the Committees on Human Services of  
4 the Senate and the House of Representatives to convene interim  
5 hearings on the use of legal interventions available to the  
6 Family Court; and  
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8 WHEREAS, during the course of the interim hearings, four  
9 committees were formed relating to Family Court Models, Family  
10 Court Sunshine and Accountability, Temporary Restraining Orders,  
11 and the Best Interests of the Child; and  
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13 WHEREAS, after hours of hard work and meetings, the Family  
14 Court Sunshine and Accountability Committee submitted its  
15 findings and recommendations to the Committees on Human Services  
16 of the Senate and the House of Representatives, which adopted  
17 its recommendation regarding the need to further study certain  
18 outstanding issues related to family court custody evaluators;  
19 and  
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21 WHEREAS, the Family Court Sunshine and Accountability  
22 Committee found that:  
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24 (1) The education, training, and experience standards for  
25 family court custody evaluators should be further  
26 explored and discussed; and  
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28 (2) Court-appointed custody evaluator models found in  
29 other jurisdictions, such as California, should be  
30 further explored and discussed before making a  
31 determination if any model explored would be



1 appropriate for implementation in the Hawaii family  
2 courts; now, therefore,  
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4 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fourth  
5 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2007, the  
6 House of Representatives concurring, that the Committees on  
7 Human Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives  
8 are requested to convene a task force during the interim to  
9 further study and make recommendations regarding the issues  
10 identified by the Family Court Sunshine and Accountability  
11 Committee regarding family court custody evaluators; and  
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13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force should include  
14 one representative of the Judiciary, the Research Corporation of  
15 the University of Hawaii, the legal community, a children's  
16 advocacy organization, a social work organization, a domestic  
17 violence organization, an organization representing the  
18 interests of petitioners, and an organization representing the  
19 interests of respondents; and  
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21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to  
22 submit a report, including any proposed legislation, no later  
23 than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session  
24 of 2008; and  
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26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
27 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the President of the  
28 Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Chair  
29 of the Senate Committee on Human Services, the Chair of the  
30 House Committee on Human Services, the Chief Justice of the  
31 Hawaii Supreme Court, and the Executive Director of the Research  
32 Corporation of the University of Hawaii.  
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OFFERED BY:

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