HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE, 2010 STATE OF HAWAII

H.R. NO. 149

HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES TO CONVENE A WORKING GROUP TO FURTHER STUDY RECOMMENDATIONS MADE BY THE SR 10 WORKING GROUP COMMITTEES.

1 2 3 4 5 WHEREAS, in the 2004 Regular Session, the Senate adopted Senate Resolution No. 40, authorizing the Senate Committee on 6 7 Human Services to convene interim hearings on the Hawaii Family 8 Court; and 9 10 WHEREAS, the interim hearings were designed to explore ways 11 to make the Hawaii Family Court more accessible and family oriented and focused on important issues relating to reduction 12 in caseload; and 13 14 15 WHEREAS, some of the recommendations were adopted and received legislative attention, but there were still other 16 issues that remained unresolved; and 17 18 19 WHEREAS, to continue work on the unresolved issues, in the 2006 Regular Session, the Senate and the House of 20 Representatives adopted Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 52, 21 S.D. 1, authorizing the Committees on Human Services of the 22 Senate and the House of Representatives to convene interim 23 hearings on the use of legal interventions available to the 24 25 Family Court and to establish one or more task forces to facilitate their work; and 26 27 28 WHEREAS, the SCR 52 Task Force was established for that 29 purpose; and 30

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1 WHEREAS, there are other issues and recommendations.that 2 the SCR 52 Task Force studied and recommended and was continued 3 as the SR 10 Working Group; and, 4

5 WHEREAS, there are other issues and recommendations that 6 the SR 10 Working Group needs to study further; now, therefore,

8 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of the Twenty-fifth Legislature 9 of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2010, that the House 10 Committee on Human Services is requested to convene a working group to further study the outstanding recommendations of the 11 12 four committees that were formed relating to Family Court 13 Models, Family Court Sunshine and Accountability, Temporary 14 Restraining Orders, and the Best Interests of the Child, and any other related issues; and 15

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, upon the adoption of this
Resolution, the working group is to be referred to as the Family
Court Legal Interventions Working Group and cease to exist on
January 1, 2011; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Family Court Legal 22 23 Interventions Working Group include one representative of the Department of Human Services; the Department of Health; the 24 25 Hawaii Association of Marriage and Family Therapists; the Family Law Section of the Hawaii State Bar Association; the National 26 Association of Social Workers, Hawaii Chapter; the Children's 27 Rights Council; the Hawaii Coalition for Dads; Legal Aid Society 28 29 of Hawaii; Volunteer Legal Services Hawaii; the Hawaii State 30 Coalition Against Domestic Violence; the Domestic Violence 31 Clearinghouse and Legal Hotline; the Mediation Center of the Pacific; EPIC Ohana Conferencing; the Hawaii Psychological 32 33 Association; the Family Justice Alliance; VOICES; and the Commission on the Status of Women; and 34 35

36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the University of Hawaii Social 37 Services Public Policy Center assist the Family Court Legal 38 Interventions Working Group with the facilitation of the group's 39 efforts; and 40

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Family Court Legal 1 2 Interventions Working Group includes participation from persons who represent the neighbor islands in its discussions; and 3

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5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Family Court Legal Interventions Working Group submit an interim report, including 6 any proposed legislation, no later than twenty days prior to the 7 convening of the Regular Session of 2011, and submit a final 8 9 report, including any proposed legislation, no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2012; and 10

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this 12 13 Resolution be transmitted to the Speaker of the House, the Chair of the House Committee on Human Services, the Chair of the House 14 Committee on Judiciary, the Director of Human Services, the 15 Director of Health, President of the Board of Directors of the 16 Hawaii Association of Marriage and Family Therapists, Chair of 17 18 the Family Law Section, President of the Hawaii State Bar 19 Association, Executive Director of the Hawaii Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers, President of the 20 21 Children's Rights Council of Hawaii, President of the Hawaii Coalition for Dads, President of the Legal Aid Society of 22 23 Hawaii, Executive Director of Volunteer Legal Services Hawaii, Executive Director of the Hawaii State Coalition Against 24 Domestic Violence, Executive Director of the Domestic Violence 25 26 Clearinghouse and Legal Hotline, President of the Board of 27 Directors of the Mediation Center of the Pacific, Director of 28 EPIC Ohana Conferencing, President of Hawaii Psychological Association, the Family Justice Alliance, VOICES, the Commission 29 30 on the Status of Women, the University of Hawaii Social Sciences 31 Public Policy Center, and the Chief Justice of the Hawaii Supreme Court. 32

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