SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A VOLUNTEER DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ASSESSMENT AND CASE MANAGEMENT UNIT.

WHEREAS, the co-occurrence of domestic violence and child abuse is well documented in clinical research and literature; and

WHEREAS, overlooking domestic violence in child welfare cases can result in catastrophic consequences for the child and victims that survive domestic violence; and

WHEREAS, inaccurately diagnosing domestic violence dynamics in child welfare cases can result in potentially life-threatening consequences for the child and victims that survive domestic violence; and

WHEREAS, existing domestic violence service agencies and Child Welfare Services need to enhance working collaborations in cases where domestic violence issues are raised or identified; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-sixth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2011, the House of Representatives concurring, that the Hawaii State Coalition Against Domestic Violence, in partnership with the Department of Human Services, Department of Health, and Judiciary, is requested to convene a working group to develop a volunteer domestic violence assessment and case management unit; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the volunteer domestic violence assessment and case management unit address and appropriately respond to cases where allegations or a history of domestic violence has been raised or identified; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hawaii State Coalition Against Domestic Violence submit a report of its findings and recommendations regarding the status, challenges, and opportunities for the establishment of the volunteer domestic violence assessment and case management unit to the Legislature, no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2012; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Human Services, Administrator of Child Welfare Services, Director of Health, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, and Hawaii State Coalition Against Domestic Violence.