
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE JUDICIARY TO EXAMINE THE FEASIBILITY AND POTENTIAL
BENEFITS OF ESTABLISHING DWI COURT PROGRAMS IN KONA AND
HILO ON HAWAII ISLAND.

1 WHEREAS, the pervasive problem of impaired driving is a
2 national threat to public safety; and
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4 WHEREAS, any impaired driving conviction results in the
5 offender entering the criminal justice system; and
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7 WHEREAS, courts have unique opportunities to strive for the
8 accountability of substance abusers and to stop recidivism; and
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10 WHEREAS, traditional forms of punishment are ineffective
11 deterrents for repeat impaired driving offenders if
12 unaccompanied by treatment and accountability; and
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14 WHEREAS, DWI Court Programs are post-conviction programs
15 that utilize intensive supervision and long-term treatment to
16 change the behavior of repeat impaired driving offenders; and
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18 WHEREAS, DWI Court Programs employ the strategies of close
19 supervision, frequent alcohol and other drug testing, and
20 ongoing judicial interaction to integrate treatment services
21 into the justice system; and
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23 WHEREAS, the Oahu First Circuit District Court implemented
24 a DWI Court Program in 2013, and has had a zero per cent
25 recidivism rate for subsequent impaired driving arrests of those
26 who have graduated the program, while there is a twenty per cent
27 recidivism rate for subsequent impaired driving arrests among
28 those who were eligible for the DWI Court Program but chose not
29 to screen or join; and
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H.C.R. NO. 44

1 WHEREAS, according to 2010 census data, Hawaii Island
 2 accounts for 13.6 per cent of the population of the State, but
 3 accounts for 25 per cent of the State's impaired driving cases
 4 and has the highest per capita incidence of impaired driving of
 5 all counties in the State; now, therefore,

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 7 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
 8 Twenty-eighth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
 9 Session of 2016, the Senate concurring, urges the Judiciary to
 10 examine the feasibility and potential benefits of establishing
 11 DWI Court Programs in Kona and Hilo on Hawaii Island; and
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13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Judiciary is requested to report
 14 its findings and recommendations, including any proposed
 15 legislation, to the Legislature not later than twenty days prior
 16 to the convening of the Regular Session of 2017; and
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18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 19 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chief Justice of the
 20 State Supreme Court and the Administrative Director of the
 21 Courts.
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OFFERED BY:

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