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## HOUSE RESOLUTION

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REQUESTING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A TASK FORCE TO DEVELOP CHILD  
SEXUAL ABUSE PREVENTION INITIATIVES.

1 WHEREAS, child sexual abuse is a sexual activity between an  
2 adult and a child or between two minors if there is a  
3 significant age, size, or power difference between them; and  
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5 WHEREAS, child sexual abuse can include a range of  
6 activities such as sexual touching, sexualized talk, exposure of  
7 genitals, rape, and involvement in pornography or prostitution;  
8 and  
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10 WHEREAS, child sexual abuse can occur anywhere including  
11 places like homes, neighborhoods, schools, and youth sports  
12 environments, and activities such as child pornography and  
13 communicating in a sexual manner may also occur over the phone  
14 or on the internet; and  
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16 WHEREAS, child sexual abuse is frequently perpetrated by  
17 individuals acquainted with the child and it may occur over  
18 short or long periods of time with varying levels of coercion or  
19 physical violence; and  
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21 WHEREAS, child sexual abuse is a potential threat to  
22 societal safety and the people of Hawaii; and  
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24 WHEREAS, about one in seven girls and one in 25 boys will  
25 be sexually abused before the age of 18; and  
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27 WHEREAS, it was estimated that in 2014 about 400,000 babies  
28 born in the United States would later become victims of child  
29 sexual abuse; and



1 WHEREAS, child sexual abuse is far more prevalent than most  
2 people realize because children are victimized at a much higher  
3 rate than adults; and  
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5 WHEREAS, children aged 17 and under account for nearly 70  
6 percent of all reported sexual assaults; and  
7

8 WHEREAS, in 2000, the sexual assault rate for youths aged  
9 12 to 17 was 2.3 times higher than the rate for adults; and  
10

11 WHEREAS, approximately 44 percent of rape victims are under  
12 the age of 18 with children under the age of 12 accounting for  
13 15 percent of the rape victims; and  
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15 WHEREAS, the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act  
16 (CAPTA) passed by the federal government in 1974 and  
17 reauthorized in 2010, is the largest body of legislation in the  
18 United States with regard to the fair, ethical, and legal  
19 treatment of children, and its intent is to keep children free  
20 from all forms of abuse including physical, sexual, emotional,  
21 and psychological abuse; and  
22

23 WHEREAS, although child abuse laws exist on federal, state,  
24 and local levels, most child sexual abuse issues are governed by  
25 state laws and regulations; and  
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27 WHEREAS, child sexual abuse impacts every community  
28 regardless of socioeconomic status, culture, race, religion, or  
29 gender; now, therefore,  
30

31 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
32 Twenty-ninth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
33 of 2018, that the Department of Education is requested to  
34 establish a task force to develop sustainable child sexual abuse  
35 prevention initiatives that increase awareness, education,  
36 prevention, and advocacy; and  
37

38 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to  
39 comprise the following members, or their designees:  
40

41 (1) Superintendent of Education;



- 1
- 2 (2) Director of Health;
- 3
- 4 (3) Director of Human Services;
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- 6 (4) Attorney General;
- 7
- 8 (5) Director of the Executive Office on Early Learning;
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- 10 (6) Executive Director of Hawaii Youth Services Network;
- 11
- 12 (7) Executive Director of the Hawaii Children's Action
- 13 Network;
- 14
- 15 (8) Executive Director of the Sex Abuse Treatment Center;
- 16
- 17 (9) Chair of the Senate standing committee with primary
- 18 jurisdiction over education;
- 19
- 20 (10) Chair of the House of Representatives standing
- 21 committee with primary jurisdiction over education;
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- 23 (11) One elementary school principal, to be designated by
- 24 the Superintendent of Education;
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- 26 (12) One secondary school principal, to be designated by
- 27 the Superintendent of Education; and
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- 29 (13) One representative from a charter school, to be
- 30 designated by the Executive Director of the State
- 31 Public Charter School Commission; and
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33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Superintendent of Education  
34 or the Superintendent's designee shall serve as the chair of the  
35 task force; and

36  
37 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to  
38 consider the following when developing child sexual abuse  
39 prevention initiatives:



- 1  
2 (1) Current resources available in the State for educating  
3 children in public and private schools about sexual  
4 abuse prevention; and  
5  
6 (2) Factors that heighten a child's risk of sexual abuse  
7 including socioeconomic status, ethnicity, geographic  
8 location, and previous exposure to crimes; and  
9

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force, with the  
11 assistance of the Department of Education, is requested to  
12 submit a report to the Legislature, no later than twenty days  
13 prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2019, on the  
14 progress made concerning the development of child sexual abuse  
15 prevention initiatives; and  
16

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
18 Resolution be transmitted to the Chair of the Board of  
19 Education; Superintendent of Education; Director of Health;  
20 Director of Human Services; Attorney General; Director of the  
21 Executive Office on Early Learning; Executive Director of the  
22 Hawaii Youth Services Network; Executive Director of the Hawaii  
23 Children's Action Network; Executive Director of the Sex Abuse  
24 Treatment Center; and Executive Director of the State Public  
25 Charter School Commission.  
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27  
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OFFERED BY:

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