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SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES, OFFICE OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU, AND HONOLULU POLICE DEPARTMENT TO COLLABORATE TO DRAFT PROPOSED LEGISLATION TO PROVIDE STRONGER PROTECTIONS TO PREVENT INJURIES AND DEATHS OF CHILDREN UNDER THE CARE OF LICENSED OR REGISTERED CHILD CARE PROVIDERS.

WHEREAS, parents and guardians rely on child care providers to properly take care of their children while at work, running errands, or attending an event that requires time away from their child; and

WHEREAS, parents and guardians who enroll their children at care child facilities trust that their child's safety, wellbeing, and health are a priority; and

WHEREAS, about four hundred registered family child care homes and six licensed group child care homes are registered in the State; and

WHEREAS, there have been recent events of children being injured and even killed under the protection of child care providers; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Human Services reported thirty alleged violations of child care laws or regulations and seven confirmed cases in 2015 and forty-three alleged violations of child care laws or regulations and ten confirmed, including one case of an injured child, in 2016; and

WHEREAS, these recent events have revealed the need for stronger deterrents to ensure that children in licensed child care homes are properly being taken care for; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-ninth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2018, that the Department of the Attorney General, Department of Human Services, Office of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu, and Honolulu Police Department are requested to:

(1) Collaborate to draft proposed legislation to provide stronger protections to prevent injuries and deaths of children under the care of licensed or registered child care providers;

(2) Consult with community stakeholders on proposed legislation; and

(3) Submit proposed legislation to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2019; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Acting Attorney General, Director of Human Services, Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu, and Chief of Police of the Honolulu Police Department.

OFFERED BY:

