
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL TO ESTABLISH A STATEWIDE PROGRAM TO ADDRESS THE NEEDS OF VICTIMS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND THE COMMERCIAL SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN.

1 WHEREAS, twenty-three percent of human trafficking
2 survivors in Hawaii report that they were children when they
3 were first sex trafficked; and

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5 WHEREAS, sixty-four percent of human trafficking survivors
6 in the State identified as being Native Hawaiian; and

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8 WHEREAS, foster children and runaways having histories of
9 abuse and neglect are particularly vulnerable to human
10 trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation; and

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12 WHEREAS, LGBTQ+ youth, immigrants, undocumented workers,
13 and youth suffering from mental illnesses and substance abuse
14 issues are also at particularly high risk; and

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16 WHEREAS, victims are often lured into human trafficking
17 through emotional manipulation and control, force, fraud, or
18 threats, and many lack the ability or resources to escape and
19 start a new life; and

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21 WHEREAS, human trafficking can be difficult to detect, and
22 exploited youth may not seek help or identify themselves as
23 victims; and

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25 WHEREAS, a victim-centered and offender-focused program is
26 critically needed to serve individuals, and especially children,
27 in the State who have been sexually exploited; and

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1 WHEREAS, in 2020, the Department of the Attorney General
2 hired a Statewide Coordinator on Human Trafficking to assist
3 with a statewide response to human trafficking; now, therefore,

4 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
5 Thirty-first Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
6 of 2021, the Senate concurring, that the Department of the
7 Attorney General is requested to develop and implement a program
8 to prevent and to assist victims of human trafficking and child
9 commercial sexual exploitation; and

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11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the program should assess the
12 current status of the State's anti-trafficking response and
13 should develop and implement statewide strategies to address
14 offender accountability through coordinated law enforcement
15 efforts, prosecutions, and crime prevention efforts; and

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17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the program should also develop
18 and implement plans to provide increased support and assistance
19 to survivors of human trafficking and survivors of the
20 commercial sexual exploitation of children; and

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22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of the Attorney
23 General is requested to submit a report to the Legislature no
24 later than December 1, 2021, assessing the State's efforts to
25 address the commercial sexual exploitation of children and
26 providing plans and recommendations, including any proposed
27 legislation, for prevention strategies, victim assistance
28 programs, law enforcement efforts, data collection, and public
29 outreach and education programs; and

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31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of the Attorney
32 General is also requested to submit a report to the Legislature
33 no later than December 1, 2022, assessing the State's efforts to
34 address human trafficking and providing plans and
35 recommendations, including any proposed legislation, for
36 prevention strategies, victim assistance programs, law
37 enforcement efforts, data collection, and public outreach and
38 education programs; and



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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
2 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Attorney General and
3 Statewide Coordinator on Human Trafficking.

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OFFERED BY:



MAR 11 2021

