
HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES; DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, VIA THE BEHAVIORAL RISK FACTOR SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM; AND DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, VIA THE YOUTH RISK BEHAVIOR SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM, TO COLLECT INFORMATION ON THE SEX, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, AND GENDER IDENTITY AND GENDER EXPRESSION OF RESPONDENTS, INCLUDING RESPONDENTS WHO ARE UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF THE COURTS AND THE HAWAII YOUTH CORRECTIONAL FACILITY.

1 WHEREAS, major mental and physical health care professional
2 associations recognize that being lesbian, gay, bisexual,
3 transgender, queer or questioning, and intersex (LGBTQI) is part
4 of natural variations that occur in sex, sexual orientation, and
5 gender identity; and

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7 WHEREAS, the Department of Health published reports in 2018
8 and 2019 highlighting the issues facing lesbian, gay, bisexual,
9 transgender, or queer or questioning (LGBTQ) children and youth
10 in Hawaii, including higher rates of isolation, depression,
11 suicidal ideations or attempts, substance use and misuse,
12 homelessness, and sexual and intimate partner violence; and

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14 WHEREAS, to date, data collection efforts indicate a
15 significant population of indigenous lesbian, gay, bisexual,
16 transgender, and queer or questioning youth; and

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18 WHEREAS, intersex variation is rarely reported, leading to
19 missed information about LGBTQI; and

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21 WHEREAS, LGBTQI youth, particularly LGBTQI youth of color,
22 face discrimination and stigma that leads to criminalization and
23 increased interactions with law enforcement and the criminal
24 justice system; and

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26 WHEREAS, for some LGBTQI youth, especially LGBTQI youth of
27 color and transgender and non-conforming youth, these factors



1 play a large role in increasing their interactions with law
2 enforcement and ultimately their overrepresentation in the
3 juvenile and criminal justice systems; and
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5 WHEREAS, the primary objective of the Kawaiiloa Youth and
6 Family Wellness Center, housed within the Hawaii Youth
7 Correctional Facility, is to prevent delinquency; and
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9 WHEREAS, the Kawaiiloa Youth and Family Wellness Center
10 provides services and programs to meet the needs of youth or
11 young adults within the criminal justice system, in addition to
12 at risk youth outside the criminal justice system; and
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14 WHEREAS, specific data collected on sexual orientation,
15 gender identity, gender expression, and intersex variation
16 intersects with the statewide anti-discrimination work and could
17 inform decision-making processes, such as identifying the
18 possible disproportionate impact of the criminal justice system
19 and evaluating the efficacy of work done to alleviate obstacles
20 unique to LGBTQI and intersex youth populations; and
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22 WHEREAS, the State relies on the Behavioral Risk Factor
23 Surveillance System as a critical resource for monitoring the
24 health of Hawaii's adult population; and
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26 WHEREAS, the Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System is a
27 joint effort of the Hawaii Departments of Health and Education
28 for monitoring the health of Hawaii's youth population; now,
29 therefore,
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31 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
32 Thirty-first Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
33 of 2021, that the Department of Human Services; Department of
34 Health, via the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System; and
35 Department of Education, via the Youth Risk Behavior
36 Surveillance System, are requested to collect information on the
37 sex, sexual orientation, and gender identity and gender
38 expression of respondents, including respondents who are under
39 the supervision of the courts and the Hawaii Youth Correctional
40 Facility; and



1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Health is
2 requested to participate in the Behavioral Risk Factor
3 Surveillance System; and

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5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Health is
6 requested to publish a detailed report on the results of the
7 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System on its website every
8 three years; and

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10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Health is
11 requested to include questions related to the sex, sexual
12 orientation, and gender identity and gender expression of
13 respondents in its Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System
14 questionnaire; and

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16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Health is
17 requested to develop its own questions related to respondents'
18 sex, sexual orientation, and gender identity and gender
19 expression as part of the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance
20 System questionnaire; and

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22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Health is
23 requested to publish a comprehensive report on the health of
24 Hawaii's LGBTQI community every three years; and

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26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Health is
27 requested to include in this comprehensive report data collected
28 from the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System; and

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30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Health is
31 requested to compare, in each of these reports, the prevalence
32 of health-related risk behaviors, chronic health conditions, and
33 use of preventive services between the LGBTQI population, and
34 where possible, LGBTQI sub-populations, and the general
35 population; and

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37 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Health is
38 requested to post each comprehensive report on its website; and

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40 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Public Safety
41 is requested to work with the Sexual and Gender Minority
42 Workgroup within the Department of Health to ensure that the



1 data collection is administered in accordance with LGBTQI data
2 collection best practices; and

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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
5 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Director of Health,
6 Director of Human Services, Director of Public Safety,
7 Chairperson of the Board of Education, Superintendent of
8 Education, Chairperson of the Board of Regents of the University
9 of Hawaii, and President of the University of Hawaii.

