
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL TO DEVELOP AND
IMPLEMENT A PROGRAM TO PREVENT, AND TO ASSIST VICTIMS OF,
HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND CHILD COMMERCIAL SEXUAL EXPLOITATION.

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 who have 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



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,
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5 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
6 Thirty-first Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
7 of 2021, the Senate concurring, that the Department of the
8 Attorney General is requested to develop and implement a program
9 to prevent, and to assist victims of, human trafficking and
10 child commercial sexual exploitation; and
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12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the program is requested to
13 assess the current status of the State's anti-trafficking
14 response and develop and implement statewide strategies to
15 address offender accountability through coordinated law
16 enforcement efforts, prosecutions, and crime prevention efforts;
17 and
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19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the program is requested to
20 develop and implement plans to provide increased support and
21 assistance to survivors of human trafficking and survivors of
22 the commercial sexual exploitation of children; and
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24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of the Attorney
25 General is requested to submit an initial report to the
26 Legislature no later than December 1, 2021, assessing the
27 State's efforts to address the commercial sexual exploitation of
28 children and providing plans and recommendations, including any
29 proposed legislation, for prevention strategies, victim
30 assistance programs, law enforcement efforts, data collection,
31 and public outreach and education programs; and
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33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of the Attorney
34 General is requested to submit a second report to the
35 Legislature no later than December 1, 2022, assessing the
36 State's efforts to address human trafficking and providing plans
37 and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, for
38 prevention strategies, victim assistance programs, law
39 enforcement efforts, data collection, and public outreach and
40 education programs; and



- 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.

