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## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE JUDICIARY CONDUCT A STUDY ON THE NECESSITY OF MANDATORY REFERRALS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES FOR INVESTIGATION OR INTERVENTION IN ALL CASES OF ALLEGED DOMESTIC ABUSE INVOLVING A FAMILY OR HOUSEHOLD MEMBER WHO IS A MINOR OR INCAPACITATED PERSON.

WHEREAS, when domestic abuse occurs in a household in which a child resides, a parent may seek a restraining order against the abusive parent or household member; and

WHEREAS, in such cases, existing law requires the courtappointed entity assisting the parent with filing the petition to refer the matter to the Department of Human Services for intervention or investigation by the Child Welfare Services Branch; and

WHEREAS, judges have the discretionary authority to refer a case to the Department of Human Services where an investigation is warranted to ensure the family's safety and provide services to support their safety and well-being; and

WHEREAS, given this authority, mandating a referral to the Department of Human Services for investigation or intervention in all cases of alleged domestic abuse involving a family or household member who is a minor or incapacitated person may be unnecessary; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Thirty-first Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2022, the Senate concurring, that the Judiciary is requested to conduct a study on the necessity of mandatory referrals to the Department of Human Services for investigation or intervention in all cases of alleged domestic abuse involving a family or household who is a minor or incapacitated person; and

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 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Judiciary is requested to submit a report of its findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2023; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chief Justice of the Hawaii Supreme Court and Director of Human Services.

OFFERED BY:

MAR 1 0 2022