
HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO RESTORE FUNDING FOR
CERTAIN SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER TREATMENT AGENCIES FOR THE
FISCAL YEARS 2022-2023 AND 2023-2024 FOR RESIDENTIAL,
OUTPATIENT, AND ADOLESCENT SCHOOL-BASED SERVICES.

1 WHEREAS, all citizens possess the basic human right to the
2 preservation of personal dignity; and
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4 WHEREAS, all citizens deserve the investment of every
5 possible resource to ensure lasting physical, mental, and
6 emotional well-being; and
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8 WHEREAS, every child deserves to live a good life -- to
9 have a healthy body, a clear mind, loving family and friends,
10 and the freedom to make the choices that are best for
11 themselves; choices that open doors to new passions,
12 opportunities and a bright future; and
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14 WHEREAS, teenager's brains and bodies are still growing
15 while learning how to make smart choices, control impulses, and
16 live a respectful life, which can be short circuited by drugs
17 and alcohol; and
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19 WHEREAS, substance use disorders (SUD) are complex but
20 treatable diseases that affect brain function and behavior; and
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22 WHEREAS, SUDs and their co-occurring disorders have a range
23 of severity, with higher severity levels causing primary
24 suffering and the pathological effects of addiction causing
25 secondary suffering, requiring effective treatment; and
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27 WHEREAS, chronic and severe SUDs lead to liver damage,
28 liver failure, seizures, stroke, mental confusion, lung disease,
29 and cardiological problems, in addition to problems with memory,
30 attention, and decision-making, thus making daily living
31 difficult; and
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33 WHEREAS, the most serious SUD is addiction, which causes
34 afflicted persons to engage in heavy drug use, resulting in low



1 functioning mental health issues such that there is
2 uncontrollable use of a substance despite harmful consequences
3 leading to impaired day to day life; and
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5 WHEREAS, often, a person afflicted with addiction cannot
6 stop heavy drug use even if they want and try to because changes
7 in their brain structure cause intense cravings; changes in
8 personality; abnormal behaviors that affect judgement,
9 decision-making, learning, memory, and behavioral control, which
10 can last a long time and, if left untreated, becomes one of the
11 leading causes of preventable illnesses and premature death; and
12

13 WHEREAS, severe SUDs experienced by pregnant women can
14 impact the development of their infants and can lead to both
15 pre- and postnatal complications, be a detriment to both the
16 mother's and child's physical and mental well-being, and places
17 the child at risk for future substance use; and
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19 WHEREAS, no single treatment is right for every person
20 suffering from addiction, and those with the most severe
21 conditions need to have quick access to appropriate treatment
22 when the opportunity arises or when motivation is present; and
23

24 WHEREAS, patients or clients can live a drug-free, crime-
25 free lifestyle after treatment; and
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27 WHEREAS, studies indicate that residential treatment
28 programs are most effective for patients suffering from chronic
29 and severe SUDs and that there are very rare alternative
30 interventions that could meet this special population's needs;
31 and
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33 WHEREAS, studies from the American Society of Addiction
34 Medicine have determined that a chronic SUD diagnosis needs
35 abstinence-based residential treatment for a minimum of thirty to
36 ninety days; and
37

38 WHEREAS, pregnant and parenting women who suffer from SUDs
39 have complex needs such as addressing co-occurring mental health
40 disorders, managing medical conditions such as high risk
41 pregnancy and relationship building particularly with regards to



1 parenting, that are best addressed within residential and
2 outpatient treatment, including therapeutic housing; and
3

4 WHEREAS, SUD treatment programs are becoming more advanced
5 in treating people with co-occurring mental health disorders by
6 helping people with symptom management training and providing
7 medications (psychopharmacology), while also addressing co-
8 morbidity health illnesses; and
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10 WHEREAS, in school-based environments, teachers play a key
11 role as part of the intervention process as well as mentoring
12 during and after treatment, thereby helping to sustain positive
13 outcomes; and
14

15 WHEREAS, substance abuse treatment programs in schools can
16 offer the expertise for providing special interventions for
17 youths, strengthening families, and empowering communities; and
18

19 WHEREAS, through nationally recognized therapeutic
20 practices, treatment can also help students make positive
21 changes in their lives to address other health problems;
22 injuries from accidents, suicide, family problems; relationship
23 issues; problems in schools; and even legal issues; and
24

25 WHEREAS, the loss of funding to and resulting shortened
26 treatment times and lowered rates for adult treatment and
27 school-based adolescent services to Hina Mauka (The Alcoholic
28 Rehabilitation Services of Hawaii); The Salvation Army Addiction
29 Treatment Services; The Salvation Army Family Treatment
30 Services; Po'ailani, Inc.; and Aloha House, Malama Family
31 Recovery Center, and Maui Youth & Family Services has caused
32 five hundred fifty adults to lose access needed services and
33 caused the loss of school-based services to two hundred students
34 per year and has caused a fifty percent decrease in bed spaces
35 available for pregnant and parenting women to receive gender
36 responsive residential SUD treatment that they could engage in
37 with their infants or young children; and
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39 WHEREAS, these services are much needed and funding was
40 removed despite excellent performance and outcomes; now,
41 therefore,
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1 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
2 Thirty-first Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
3 of 2022, that the Department of Health is requested to restore
4 funding and services to substance use disorder treatment
5 services for residential and outpatient adult and adolescent
6 school-based programs for fiscal years 2022-2023 and 2023-2024;
7 and

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9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Health is
10 requested to restore funding for:

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12 (1) Adult and adolescent school-based services treatment
13 services offered by Hina Mauka (The Alcoholic
14 Rehabilitation Services of Hawaii);
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16 (2) Adult services offered by The Salvation Army Addiction
17 Treatment Services;
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19 (3) Adult and children services provided by The Salvation
20 Army Family Treatment Services;
21
22 (4) School-based services provided by Aloha House, Malama
23 Family Recovery Center, and Maui Youth & Family
24 Services; and
25
26 (5) Subsidization of reduced rates for services provided
27 by Po'ailani, Inc. and the above-mentioned agencies;
28 and
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30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Health is
31 urged to develop a statewide plan to identify, coordinate, and
32 develop protocols for various forms of treatment, including both
33 evidenced-based practices and harm reduction practices that
34 would comprehensively help individuals and their families
35 receive timely access to appropriate and adequate treatment for
36 substance use disorders, including addiction as well as co-
37 occurring mental health disorders; and
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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
2 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor and Director of
3 Health.
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OFFERED BY:



MAR 11 2022

