

MAR 10 2022

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES TO ESTABLISH A ONE-YEAR PILOT PROGRAM TO PROVIDE A BASIC INCOME TO QUALIFIED ADULTS WHO ARE VERIFIED VICTIMS OF SEX TRAFFICKING OR WHO ARE FEMALE OR SEXUAL AND GENDER MINORITY INDIVIDUALS SEEKING TO EXIT THE SEX TRADE.

1 WHEREAS, mainstream American feminism has focused on the
2 right to engage in prostitution, thus overshadowing indigenous
3 and transnational feminists' call for women and the lesbian,
4 gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer ohana to have the right to
5 refuse to engage in prostitution or endure recurring sexual
6 assault to survive; and

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8 WHEREAS, Native Hawaiian women, women of color, and sexual
9 and gender identity minorities deserve the same right as
10 affluent, college-educated, or white women to exit the sex trade;
11 and

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13 WHEREAS, the right to exit prostitution does not
14 meaningfully exist for most individuals in the sex trade; and

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16 WHEREAS, the right to leave patriarchal institutions is one
17 of the rights that is most often denied to women; and

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19 WHEREAS, an appropriate alternative would be to establish a
20 pilot program to support the economic survival of those wanting
21 to exit this patriarchal system, thereby addressing the tendency
22 of many social institutions to criminalize those who are forced
23 to engage in prostitution and instead encourage compassion for
24 individuals ensnared in the sex trade; now, therefore,

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26 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-first
27 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2022, the
28 House of Representatives concurring, that the Department of



1 Human Services is requested to establish a one-year pilot
2 program to provide a basic income to qualified adults who are
3 verified victims of sex trafficking or who are female or sexual
4 and gender minority individuals seeking to exit the sex trade;
5 and
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7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, to the extent possible, the
8 Department of Human Services is requested to administer the
9 pilot program in the following manner:
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11 (1) The target number of program applicants should be two
12 hundred fifty;
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14 (2) A program applicant should:
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16 (A) Be a Hawaii resident who is eighteen years of age
17 or older;
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19 (B) Demonstrate the applicant's status as a victim of
20 sex trafficking or as a female or sexual and
21 gender minority individual seeking to exit the
22 sex trade; and
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24 (C) Provide documentation, from a nonprofit
25 organization, community-based program, or other
26 organization that provides housing, shelter,
27 education, substance abuse counseling, or
28 gender-based violence support for victims of sex
29 trafficking or prostitution, that attests to the
30 applicant's status in subparagraph (B);
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32 (3) The personal information of program applicants and
33 participants, including name, age, date of birth, and
34 contact information, should be kept confidential
35 within the Department of Human Services and should not
36 be disclosed to any member of the public;
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38 (4) Applicants should not be required to seek employment
39 or further education to be eligible to participate in
40 the pilot program; and
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(5) Each qualified applicant should receive a basic monthly income of \$2,000 for a period of up to one year; provided that the basic monthly income provided by the pilot program should be exempt from state income taxes and, to the extent permissible under federal law, should be exempt from being considered income for the purposes of determining eligibility and benefit amounts under relevant public assistance, social services, and financial aid programs; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Human Services is requested to terminate the pilot program after one year of operation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Human Services is requested to submit a report of its findings and recommendations regarding the pilot program, including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2024; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor and Director of Human Services.

OFFERED BY:



