

MAR 11 2022

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# SENATE 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

7  
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

13  
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

26  
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

32  
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  
4

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  
18

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  
26

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 abstinent-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

9  
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

38  
39 WHEREAS, these services are much needed and funding was  
40 removed despite excellent performance and outcomes; now,  
41 therefore,



1 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-first  
2 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2022,  
3 that the Department of Health is requested to restore funding  
4 and services to substance use disorder treatment services for  
5 residential and outpatient adult and adolescent school-based  
6 programs for fiscal years 2022-2023 and 2023-2024; and  
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8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Health is  
9 requested to restore funding for:

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- 11 (1) Adult and adolescent school-based services treatment  
12 services offered by Hina Mauka (The Alcoholic  
13 Rehabilitation Services of Hawaii);  
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  - 15 (2) Adult services offered by The Salvation Army Addiction  
16 Treatment Services;  
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  - 18 (3) Adult and children services provided by The Salvation  
19 Army Family Treatment Services;  
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  - 21 (4) School-based services provided by Aloha House, Malama  
22 Family Recovery Center, and Maui Youth & Family  
23 Services; and  
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  - 25 (5) Subsidization of reduced rates for services provided  
26 by Po'ailani, Inc. and the above-mentioned agencies;  
27 and  
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29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Health is  
30 urged to develop a statewide plan to identify, coordinate, and  
31 develop protocols for various forms of treatment, including both  
32 evidenced-based practices and harm reduction practices that  
33 would comprehensively help individuals and their families  
34 receive timely access to appropriate and adequate treatment for  
35 substance use disorders, including addiction as well as co-  
36 occurring mental health disorders; and  
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38



# S.R. NO. 206

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: Clarence K. Nishihara

