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## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

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REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES AND LEGISLATIVE  
REFERENCE BUREAU TO CONDUCT A STUDY ON THE FEASIBILITY OF  
ESTABLISHING A 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 program to support the economic survival of those wanting to  
21 exit this patriarchal system, thereby addressing the tendency of  
22 many social institutions to criminalize those who are forced to  
23 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 House of Representatives of the  
27 Thirty-first Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session



1 of 2022, the Senate concurring, that the Department of Human  
2 Services and Legislative Reference Bureau are requested to  
3 conduct a study on the feasibility of establishing a program to  
4 provide a basic income to qualified adults who are verified  
5 victims of sex trafficking or who are female or sexual and  
6 gender minority individuals seeking to exit the sex trade; and  
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8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Human  
9 Services and Legislative Reference Bureau are requested to  
10 consider the feasibility of the following when conducting the  
11 study:  
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- 13 (1) Providing each qualified applicant a basic monthly  
14 income of \$2,000 for a period of up to one year; and  
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- 16 (2) Exempting the basic monthly income provided by the  
17 program from state income taxes and, to the extent  
18 permissible under federal law, from being considered  
19 income for the purposes of determining eligibility and  
20 benefit amounts under relevant public assistance,  
21 social services, and financial aid programs; and  
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23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Human  
24 Services and Legislative Reference Bureau are requested to  
25 submit a report of their findings and recommendations, including  
26 any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than  
27 twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of  
28 2023; and  
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30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
31 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Director  
32 of Human Services, and Director of the Legislative Reference  
33 Bureau.  
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