HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE, 2023 STATE OF HAWAII H.C.R. NO. 76

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII TO ESTABLISH A RESTORATIVE JUSTICE RESEARCH INSTITUTE, OR HOOKAULIKE, AT THE WILLIAM S. RICHARDSON SCHOOL OF LAW.

WHEREAS, the criminal justice system in Hawaii has a
disparate impact on Native Hawaiians, Pacific Islanders, and
other persons of color; and

5 WHEREAS, Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders comprise 6 approximately twenty percent of Hawaii's adult population but 7 account for more than forty percent of the population in the 8 State's prisons; and 9

10 WHEREAS, the Office of Hawaiian Affairs found that Native 11 Hawaiians are more likely to receive prison sentences, and to 12 receive comparatively longer prison sentences, than 13 non-indigenous persons who commit the same crimes; and

WHEREAS, Native Hawaiians, Pacific Islanders, and other persons of color often experience intergenerational poverty and trauma, insufficient support services, inadequate housing, poor health outcomes, and other systemic challenges that contribute to their disproportionate rate of incarceration; and

WHEREAS, addressing these issues requires community engagement; a multi-disciplinary approach; and evidence-based polices, goals, and guidelines; now, therefore, 24

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Thirty-second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2023, the Senate concurring, that the University of Hawaii is urged to establish a restorative justice research institute, or Hookaulike, at the William S. Richardson School of Law; and

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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, if established, the Hookaulike 2 is encouraged to: 3 4 (1)Advise the State on the creation of a fair and 5 inclusive criminal justice system that addresses the disparate challenges facing Native Hawaiians, Pacific 6 7 Islanders, and other persons of color, and emphasizes 8 restoration and healing; 9 Facilitate collaborations between the William S. 10 (2) 11 Richardson School of Law, Hawaiinuiakea School of 12 Hawaiian Knowledge, Thompson School of Social Work and Public Health, and University of Hawaii Community 13 Design Center; 14 15 (3) 16 Develop advocacy programs to assist vulnerable communities in Hawaii, including Native Hawaiians, 17 Pacific Islanders, and other persons of color, to 18 19 ensure the communities have inclusive, culturally 20 appropriate, and fair representation in the State's 21 criminal justice system; 22 (4) 23 Conduct and promote research, and hold academic and professional conferences, to provide recommendations 24 for evidence-based improvements to county, state, and 25 federal criminal justice systems, including 26 improvements to laws, policies, methods, rules, and 27 28 procedures; and 29 30 (5) Arrange regular discussions among state and county agencies, private and nonprofit organizations, the 31 Judiciary's Criminal Justice Research Institute, and 32 other stakeholders to evaluate issues relevant to 33 policing, prosecutions, and corrections; and 34 35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this 36 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chair of the 37 University of Hawaii Board of Regents; Deans of the William S. 38 Richardson School of Law, Hawaiinuiakea School of Hawaiian 39 40 Knowledge, and Thompson School of Social Work and Public Health; 41 Principal Investigators of the University of Hawaii Community

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Design Center; and Director of the Criminal Justice Research
Institute.

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OFFERED BY:

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