
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE OFFICE OF YOUTH SERVICES TO DEVELOP A LIST AND
INVENTORY OF PROGRAMS THAT WORK WITH PACIFIC ISLANDER YOUTH
AND THEIR FAMILIES.

1 WHEREAS, the Office of Youth Services of the Department of
2 Human Services provides and coordinates a continuum of services
3 and programs for at-risk youth to prevent delinquency and reduce
4 the incidence of recidivism; and

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6 WHEREAS, although a core responsibility of the Office of
7 Youth Services is to manage and operate the Hawaii Youth
8 Correctional Facility, the agency also provides and supports
9 other prevention, diversion, and intervention services; and

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11 WHEREAS, the Office of Youth Services supports the Hawaii
12 Juvenile Justice State Advisory Council, which advises
13 government and local communities on effective service provisions
14 and policies that improve the juvenile justice system and
15 advocates for delinquency prevention, and Hawaii State Youth
16 Commission, which advises the Governor and Legislature on the
17 effects of legislative policies, needs, assessments, priorities,
18 programs, and budgets concerning the youth of the State; and

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20 WHEREAS, Pacific Islander youth are overrepresented within
21 the State's social, behavioral, and health systems, including
22 the juvenile justice system and the Hawaii Youth Correctional
23 Facility; and

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25 WHEREAS, in light of youth suicide rates, dropout rates,
26 and interactions with the criminal justice system, especially
27 for youth originating from the Pacific Islands, the youth of
28 Hawaii would benefit from the myriad of Pacific Islander youth
29 programs offered to assist at-risk youth; and
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H.C.R. NO. 11

1 WHEREAS, in 2019, to address the lack of awareness of
 2 existing programs for Pacific Islander youth, the Office of
 3 Youth Services procured a contract for a statewide youth
 4 services directory; and

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 6 WHEREAS, however, due to budgets cuts, this contract was
 7 terminated in 2020; and


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 9 WHEREAS, there is a lack of awareness of and coordination
 10 for programs and services in the State, especially for programs
 11 that work with Pacific Islander youth and their families; now,
 12 therefore,

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 14 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
 15 Thirty-second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
 16 Session of 2023, the Senate concurring, that the Office of Youth
 17 Services is urged to develop a list and inventory of programs
 18 that work with Pacific Islander youth and their families; and

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 20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Office of Youth Services is
 21 requested to submit a report of its findings and
 22 recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the
 23 Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
 24 the Regular Session of 2024; and

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 26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 27 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Human
 28 Services and Executive Director of the Office of Youth Services.

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OFFERED BY: 

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