
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE JUDICIARY TO CONDUCT A STUDY ANALYZING HOW
EFFECTIVE EXISTING LAWS ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE TEMPORARY
RESTRAINING ORDERS AND HARASSMENT BY STALKING ARE IN
PREVENTING CONTINUED ABUSE AND HARASSMENT.

1 WHEREAS, domestic violence and stalking continue to be
2 pervasive and serious public safety concerns affecting
3 individuals and families throughout the State; and
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5 WHEREAS, temporary restraining orders (TROs) serve as a
6 critical legal tool by providing immediate protection for
7 victims of domestic violence and harassment by stalking; and
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9 WHEREAS, concerns have been raised regarding the
10 effectiveness of the laws on domestic violence temporary
11 restraining orders and harassment by stalking in preventing
12 continued abuse and harassment; and
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14 WHEREAS, it is essential to evaluate whether these laws are
15 adequately protecting victims, whether enforcement mechanisms
16 are sufficient, and whether additional legislative measures may
17 be necessary to enhance their effectiveness; and
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19 WHEREAS, a comprehensive study conducted by the Judiciary
20 would provide valuable data and insights into the strengths and
21 weaknesses of these legal protections, including the rate of
22 compliance, enforcement challenges, and victim outcomes; and
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24 WHEREAS, such a study should consider feedback from key
25 stakeholders, including law enforcement agencies, victim
26 advocacy organizations, the legal community, and individuals
27 impacted by domestic violence and stalking; and
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1 WHEREAS, findings and recommendations from the study could
2 inform potential legislative improvements to better safeguard
3 victims and prevent future harm; now, therefore,
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5 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
6 Thirty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
7 of 2025, the Senate concurring, that the Judiciary is requested
8 to conduct a study analyzing how effective the existing laws on
9 domestic violence temporary restraining orders and harassment by
10 stalking are in preventing continued abuse and harassment; and
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12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study is requested to
13 include an analysis of the issuance, enforcement, and impact of
14 temporary restraining orders, as well as an examination of the
15 prosecution and adjudication of harassment by stalking cases;
16 and
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18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study is requested to
19 incorporate data from law enforcement agencies, victim services
20 providers, legal practitioners, and individuals who have sought
21 protective orders; and
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23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Judiciary is requested to
24 submit a report of its findings and recommendations, including
25 any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than
26 twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of
27 2026; and
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29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
30 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chief Justice,
31 Administrative Director of the Courts, Attorney General, and
32 Executive Director of the Hawaii State Coalition Against
33 Domestic Violence.
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OFFERED BY:


MAR 05 2025