
HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE ATTORNEY GENERAL TO INVESTIGATE WHETHER CRISIS
PREGNANCY CENTERS OPERATING IN THE STATE ARE COMPLYING WITH
PATIENT PRIVACY REGULATIONS.

1 WHEREAS, Hawaii has a long tradition of protecting an
2 individual's right to privacy and bodily autonomy, including
3 becoming the first state in the nation to legalize abortion in
4 1970; and

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6 WHEREAS, the State reaffirmed its commitment to supporting
7 access to reproductive care with the passage of Act 2, Session
8 Laws of Hawaii 2023, which created comprehensive protections for
9 the provision of reproductive health care services; and

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11 WHEREAS, crisis pregnancy centers are nonprofit
12 organizations established by anti-abortion groups whose primary
13 purpose is to persuade pregnant women not to have an abortion
14 through the promotion and provision of alternative services and
15 resources for pregnant mothers; and

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17 WHEREAS, a study published in the December 2024, issue of
18 *JAMA Internal Medicine* analyzed more than four hundred seventy
19 thousand webpages from 1,825 crisis pregnancy center websites
20 between September 2023, and March 2024, and found that ninety-
21 one percent of crisis pregnancy centers advertise medical
22 services, including pregnancy tests (eighty-five percent),
23 ultrasounds (seventy-seven percent), and testing for sexually
24 transmitted infections (fifty-four percent); and

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26 WHEREAS, the study further found that thirty percent of
27 crisis pregnancy center websites promoted "abortion pill
28 reversal", with some centers directly targeting women who might
29 regret starting a medication abortion; and

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31 WHEREAS, one of the authors of the study noted that
32 abortion pill reversal currently lacks approval from the United



1 States Food and Drug Administration and may increase the risk of
2 serious complications, including sepsis, particularly in cases
3 where it interferes with the completion of a medication
4 abortion; and

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6 WHEREAS, a study conducted by Healthcare Management
7 Associates in 2024 found that while crisis pregnancy centers
8 across the nation received \$400,000,000 in federal funding
9 between 2017 and 2023, these centers operate with little
10 oversight by regulators; and

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12 WHEREAS, a November 15, 2024, article published by *Health*
13 *Affairs* titled "Addressing the HIPAA Blind Spot for Crisis
14 Pregnancy Centers" noted that crisis pregnancy centers often
15 invoke the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act
16 to collect personal information from clients; and

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18 WHEREAS, the Electronic Frontiers Foundation, an
19 international digital rights nonprofit that promotes internet
20 civil liberties, has called on states to investigate whether
21 crisis pregnancy centers are complying with patient privacy
22 regulations with regard to the retention and use of collected
23 patient data; now, therefore,

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25 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
26 Thirty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
27 of 2025, that the Attorney General is requested to investigate
28 whether crisis pregnancy centers operating in the State are
29 complying with patient privacy regulations; and

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31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Attorney General is further
32 requested to provide a report on its findings and
33 recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the
34 Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
35 the Regular Session of 2026; and

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37 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
38 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor and Attorney General.
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OFFERED BY: 

