
HOUSE 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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29 WHEREAS, findings and recommendations from the study could
30 inform potential legislative improvements to better safeguard
31 victims and prevent future harm; now, therefore,



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2 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
3 Thirty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
4 of 2025, that the Judiciary is requested to conduct a study
5 analyzing how effective the existing laws on domestic violence
6 temporary restraining orders and harassment by stalking are in
7 preventing continued abuse and harassment; and

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9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study is requested to
10 include an analysis of the issuance, enforcement, and impact of
11 temporary restraining orders, as well as an examination of the
12 prosecution and adjudication of harassment by stalking cases;
13 and

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15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study is requested to
16 incorporate data from law enforcement agencies, victim services
17 providers, legal practitioners, and individuals who have sought
18 protective orders; and

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20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Judiciary is requested to
21 submit a report of its findings and recommendations, including
22 any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than
23 twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of
24 2026; and

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26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
27 Resolution be transmitted to the Chief Justice, Administrative
28 Director of the Courts, Attorney General, and Executive Director
29 of the Hawaii State Coalition Against Domestic Violence.

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32 OFFERED BY:



MAR 05 2025

