
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE HAWAII STATE COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN,
IN COLLABORATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY
GENERAL, TO ESTABLISH A WORKING GROUP AND PROVIDE A REPORT
TO THE LEGISLATURE ON WAYS TO STRENGTHEN PROTECTIONS FOR
SURVIVORS OF IMAGE-BASED SEXUAL ABUSE.

1 WHEREAS, image-based sexual abuse involves the sharing, or
2 threat of sharing, explicit images or videos of another person
3 without their consent, often with the intent to harm the
4 victim's health, safety, mental wellness, employment, financial
5 condition, reputation, or personal relationships; and
6

7 WHEREAS, image-based sexual abuse is included as a class C
8 felony under existing state law, which covers offenses that
9 constitute a violation of privacy in the first degree; and
10

11 WHEREAS, the National Center on Sexual Exploitation
12 recognizes nine different forms of image-based sexual abuse,
13 including nonconsensual distribution of sexually explicit
14 material, collection of nonconsensual distributed sexually
15 explicit materials, recorded sexual violence, sexual extortion,
16 sexual violence in virtual or augmented reality, tech-
17 facilitated sexual coercion, video voyeurism, and multiple forms
18 of computer-generated or artificial intelligence-generated
19 abuse; and
20

21 WHEREAS, a 2017 study by the Cyber Civil Rights Initiative
22 found that 12.8 percent of respondents reported being survivors
23 of image-based sexual abuse; and
24

25 WHEREAS, estimates of prevalence rates for image-based
26 sexual abuse, like sexual assault, are widely believed to be low
27 because of the social stigma, personal shame, and emotional and
28 financial repercussions of reporting such abuse; and



1
2 WHEREAS, a study published in 2019 in the academic journal,
3 *Psychology of Violence*, found that seventy-three percent of
4 survivors of image-based sexual abuse did not turn to anyone for
5 help after discovering the abuse, in part because of legal
6 challenges obtaining pathways to justice for the trauma they
7 endured; and

8
9 WHEREAS, emergent technologies, such as artificial
10 intelligence and virtual and augmented reality, are making the
11 facilitation of image-based sexual abuse easier for
12 perpetrators; and

13
14 WHEREAS, a 2019 report by Sensity, a company that detects
15 and monitors sexual deepfakes, found that ninety-five percent of
16 all online deepfake videos are nonconsensual sexual deepfakes,
17 with ninety percent of those videos targeting women; and

18
19 WHEREAS, the State has a responsibility to ensure, to the
20 greatest extent possible, that gender violence is not further
21 enabled by the rise of new technologies; now, therefore,

22
23 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
24 Thirty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
25 of 2026, the Senate concurring, that the Hawaii State Commission
26 on the Status of Women, in collaboration with the Department of
27 the Attorney General, is requested to establish a working group
28 comprised of gender-based violence service providers and
29 survivors of gender-based violence to conduct a review of
30 statutes and policies nationwide to evaluate possibilities for
31 policy or program enhancements to protect survivors of image-
32 based sexual abuse that can be adapted from other states and
33 incorporated into Hawaii law; and

34
35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hawaii State Commission on
36 the Status of Women, in collaboration with the Department of the
37 Attorney General, is requested to submit a report of its
38 findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation
39 on ways to strengthen protections for survivors of image-based
40 sexual abuse, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior
41 to the convening of the Regular Session of 2027; and
42



1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
2 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Lieutenant
3 Governor, Attorney General, Executive Director of the Hawaii
4 State Commission on the Status of Women; and prosecuting
5 attorneys of each of the counties.

6
7
8

OFFERED BY:

Pushle Chice

MAR 12 2026

