
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

CALLING ON THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES TO CONVENE A TASK
FORCE TO ESTABLISH PROTOCOLS AND TRAINING PROGRAMS FOR
FIRST RESPONDERS IN CHILD PROTECTIVE AWARENESS SKILLS.

1 WHEREAS, according to Prevent Child Abuse Hawaii, nearly
2 6,000 suspected cases of child abuse are reported in Hawaii each
3 year; and
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5 WHEREAS, child abuse can take the form of physical injury,
6 sexual abuse, neglect, and emotional maltreatment; and
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8 WHEREAS, first responders, including police officers,
9 members of the fire department, and emergency medical personnel
10 have the unique duty of responding to a wide variety of
11 situations in which children may be found who are the victims of
12 or who are at risk for child abuse; and
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14 WHEREAS, all first responders must be able to identify
15 children who may be victims of or who are at risk for abuse in
16 order to be prepared to set the proper protective protocols in
17 motion; now, therefore,
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19 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fourth
20 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2008, the
21 House of Representatives concurring, that the Department of
22 Human Services shall convene a task force to establish protocols
23 and training programs for first responders, including, but not
24 limited to, the county police departments, the sheriffs and
25 other law enforcement agencies, the fire department, and
26 emergency medical personnel, to use when coming into contact
27 with children who may be the victims of or who are at risk for
28 child abuse; and
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30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that such training and protocols may
31 include a mechanism through which confidential information from
32 child protective services may be accessed by a first responder



1 if necessary and appropriate to ensure a child's safety and
2 well-being; and

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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that such training and protocols
5 shall be developed in collaboration with the respective first
6 responder groups; and

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8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Human
9 Services shall report back to the Legislature on the status of
10 development and the estimated cost of implementation of the
11 protocols and training programs no later than twenty days prior
12 to the convening of the Regular Session of 2009, and each year
13 thereafter for three years; and

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15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, in order to avoid duplication,
16 if House Bill No. 2596, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, is enacted into law in
17 the current legislative session, the task force described by
18 this measure is requested to be incorporated into the task force
19 required by that Act; and

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21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
22 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, the
23 Director of Health, the Director of Human Services, the
24 Administrator of Child Protective Services, the Chief of Police
25 of each county, the state Sheriff, the Fire Chief of each
26 county, the Chief of the Harbor Police, and the Director of the
27 Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement.

