
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE CONTINUATION OF THE FAMILY COURT LEGAL
INTERVENTIONS WORKING GROUP ESTABLISHED IN 2007 BY SENATE
RESOLUTION NO. 10, S.D. 1 (2007).

1 WHEREAS, in the 2004 Regular Session, the Senate adopted
2 Senate Resolution No. 40, S.D. 2, authorizing the Senate
3 Committee on Human Services to convene interim hearings on the
4 Hawaii Family Court; and
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6 WHEREAS, the interim hearings were designed to explore ways
7 to make the Hawaii Family Court more accessible and family
8 oriented and focused on important issues relating to reduction
9 in caseload; and
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11 WHEREAS, while some of the recommendations were adopted and
12 received legislative attention, a number of issues remained
13 unresolved; and
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15 WHEREAS, to continue work on the unresolved issues, in the
16 2006 Regular Session, the Senate and the House of
17 Representatives adopted Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 52,
18 S.D. 1, authorizing the Committees on Human Services of the
19 Senate and the House of Representatives to convene interim
20 hearings on the use of legal interventions available to the
21 Family Court and to establish one or more task forces to
22 facilitate their work; and
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24 WHEREAS, the SCR 52 Task Force was established for that
25 purpose, and continued to work on these critical issues through
26 its four committees: Family Court Models, Family Court Sunshine
27 and Accountability, Temporary Restraining Orders, and the Best
28 Interests of the Child; and
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30 WHEREAS, while the Committees on Human Services of the
31 Senate and the House of Representatives adopted many of the
32 recommendations, further concerns required additional study; and



1 WHEREAS, in the 2007 Regular Session, the Senate adopted
2 Senate Resolution No. 10, S.D. 1, which authorized the Senate
3 Committee on Human Services and Public Housing to convene the
4 Family Court Legal Interventions Working Group to further study
5 the outstanding recommendations of the four committees; and
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7 WHEREAS, the Family Court Legal Interventions Working Group
8 has successfully pursued legislation supporting the best
9 interests of children involved in custody determinations, and
10 has identified additional recommendations that would further
11 protect Hawaii's children; and
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13 WHEREAS, the Working Group and its three subcommittees,
14 Best Interests of the Child/Family Court Models, Sunshine and
15 Accountability, and Temporary Restraining Orders, have
16 identified issues that require further review and consideration;
17 and
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19 WHEREAS, the Family Court Legal Interventions Working Group
20 shall cease to exist on January 1, 2009; now, therefore,
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22 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fifth
23 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2009, the
24 House of Representatives concurring, that the Family Court Legal
25 Interventions Working Group established in 2007 through Senate
26 Resolution No. 10, S.D. 1, is requested, with the participation
27 of the House of Representatives Committee on Human Services, to
28 continue its work for one additional year and cease to exist on
29 January 1, 2010; and
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31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the University of Hawaii Social
32 Sciences Public Policy Center continue to assist the Family
33 Court Legal Interventions Working Group with the facilitation of
34 the group's efforts; and
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36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Family Court Legal
37 Interventions Working Group submit a final report, including any
38 proposed legislation, no later than twenty days prior to the
39 convening of the Regular Session of 2010; and
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41 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
42 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the President of the
43 Senate, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Director of
44 Human Services, Director of Health, President of the Board of



1 Directors of the Hawaii Association of Marriage and Family
2 Therapists, Chair of the Family Law Section, President of the
3 Hawaii State Bar Association, Executive Director of the Hawaii
4 Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers, President
5 of the Children's Rights Council of Hawaii, President of the
6 Hawaii Coalition for Dads, President of the Legal Aid Society of
7 Hawaii, Executive Director of Volunteer Legal Services Hawaii,
8 Executive Director of the Hawaii State Coalition Against
9 Domestic Violence, Executive Director of the Domestic Violence
10 Action Center, President of the Board of Directors of the
11 Mediation Center of the Pacific, Director of EPIC Ohana
12 Conferencing, President of the Hawaii Psychological Association,
13 Family Justice Alliance, VOICES, the Commission on the Status of
14 Women, University of Hawaii Social Sciences Public Policy
15 Center, Honolulu Family Court Professionals, and the Chief
16 Justice of the Hawaii Supreme Court.

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