
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING STATE DEPARTMENTS AND THE SEVERAL COUNTIES TO AFFIRM
THE TENETS AND PRINCIPLES FOUND IN THE CONVENTION ON THE
ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN.

1 WHEREAS, although women have made significant gains in the
2 struggle for equality in most fields, more action is necessary
3 to fully eradicate discrimination based on sex and gender; and
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5 WHEREAS, in 1979, the United Nations General Assembly
6 adopted the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of
7 Discrimination against Women; and
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9 WHEREAS, in 1981, the Convention on the Elimination of All
10 Forms of Discrimination against Women entered into force as an
11 international treaty, and is the only human rights treaty
12 focused on women's rights; and
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14 WHEREAS, out of the one hundred ninety four nations in the
15 world, the United States of America, Sudan, South Sudan,
16 Somalia, Iran, Palau, and Tonga are the seven nations that have
17 not ratified the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of
18 Discrimination against Women; and
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20 WHEREAS, in nations that have ratified the Convention on
21 the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,
22 women have partnered with their governments to improve the
23 status of women and girls, which has resulted in changes in laws
24 and policies, which have led to safer environments and
25 opportunities for women and their families; and
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27 WHEREAS, state, county, and municipal governments have an
28 appropriate and legitimate role in affirming the importance of
29 international laws as universal norms and as guides for public
30 policy in communities; and



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2 WHEREAS, the "Cities for the Convention on the Elimination
3 of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women" campaign seeks to
4 protect the rights of women and girls by passing ordinances that
5 establish the principles of the foregoing treaty in cities and
6 towns across the United States; and
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8 WHEREAS, the adoption the Convention on the Elimination of
9 All Forms of Discrimination against Women as local law has
10 proven effective in addressing the barriers that reduce the
11 quality of life and equity of opportunity for women and girls;
12 and
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14 WHEREAS, a local initiative based on the principles of the
15 Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination
16 against Women would include three standards, which are:
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- 18 (1) A gender analysis of city departments and commissions;
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20 (2) An oversight body to ensure that appropriate and
21 timely actions are taken; and
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23 (3) Funding to support the implementation of the
24 principles of the Convention on the Elimination of All
25 Forms of Discrimination against Women; and
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27 WHEREAS, the City and County of Honolulu, recognizing the
28 congressional stall on the ratification of the Convention on the
29 Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women, has
30 become the most recent city to join the Cities for the
31 Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination
32 Against Women campaign; now, therefore,
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34 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
35 Twenty-eighth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
36 Session of 2016, the Senate concurring, that the state
37 departments and the several counties are requested to affirm the
38 tenets and principles found in the Convention on the Elimination
39 of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women; and
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41 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the state departments and the
42 several counties are requested to affirm the principles of the
43 Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination
44 Against Women, which include, among other principles:



H.C.R. NO. 136

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- (1) The integration of gender equity and human rights principles into governmental operations, including budgetary considerations; and
- (2) The examination of governmental actions, policies, programs, services, and employment practices to ensure they are nondiscriminatory, gender-appropriate, and fully serve communities of women and girls; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the state departments and the several counties are urged to work with the Hawaii State Commission on the Status of Women to develop gender analysis guidelines, and include the examination of race, disability, immigration status, sexual orientation, and other demographic characteristics that are linked to gender; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Human Resources Development and the several counties are urged to implement a gender analysis of governmental functions by:

- (1) Collecting and analyzing disaggregate data;
- (2) Identifying strategies that best meet the needs of residents and employees and eliminate discrimination based on stereotypes; and
- (3) Creating an action plan and developing a monitoring mechanism to ensure that governmental entities do not discriminate based on sex and gender; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, the Mayors of the several counties, the chairpersons of the several county councils, the Director of Human Resources Development, the Chairperson of State Commission on the Status of Women, and the Chairs of the several county commissions on the status of women.

OFFERED BY: *Linda Ichizawa*

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H.C.R. NO. 136

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