

JAN 24 2018

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## SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE GOVERNOR TO ESTABLISH A TASK FORCE TO EXAMINE THE RISK OF CHRONIC TRAUMATIC ENCEPHALOPATHY FROM YOUTH FOOTBALL.

1           WHEREAS, chronic traumatic encephalopathy is a  
2 neurodegenerative disease found in people who have had multiple  
3 head injuries, primarily among athletes involved in contact  
4 sports; and  
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6           WHEREAS, USA Football, the national governing body for  
7 amateur American football in the United States, estimates that  
8 approximately three million young athletes participate in  
9 organized tackle football across the country; and  
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11           WHEREAS, there is substantial research showing that playing  
12 youth football creates a significant risk of permanent brain  
13 damage, including research finding evidence that:  
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- 15           (1) Participation in youth football before age twelve  
16 increases the risk of problems with behavioral  
17 regulation, apathy, and executive functioning by two-  
18 fold and increases the risk of clinically elevated  
19 depression scores by three-fold;  
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- 21           (2) Youth football players may incur hundreds of  
22 repetitive head impacts in one season, and that  
23 exposure to repetitive head impacts during a critical  
24 neurodevelopment period prior to age twelve may lead  
25 to greater later-life mood, behavioral, and cognitive  
26 impairments;  
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- 28           (3) Football practices were a major source of concussions  
29 at the youth, high school, and collegiate level; and  
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- 31           (4) Age at first exposure to head trauma could negatively  
32 affect grey matter more than total years of play; and  
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# S.R. NO. 3

1           WHEREAS, Washington state has established precedent for  
2 state legislatures, creating laws governing youth football to  
3 protect the welfare of children; and  
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5           WHEREAS, Act 197, Session Laws of Hawaii 2012 (Act 197),  
6 required the development of a concussion educational program and  
7 a high school concussion awareness program; and  
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9           WHEREAS, Act 262, Session Laws of Hawaii 2016, expanded the  
10 scope of the concussion awareness program established by Act 197  
11 to cover students ages eleven to eighteen and add program  
12 requirements; now, therefore,  
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14           BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-ninth  
15 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2018,  
16 that the Governor is requested to establish a task force to  
17 examine:  
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19           (1) The risk of chronic traumatic encephalopathy from  
20 youth football; and  
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22           (2) The effectiveness of the concussion monitoring and  
23 education program for school athletes and concussion  
24 awareness program for youth athletics established  
25 pursuant to Act 197, Session Laws of Hawaii 2012, as  
26 amended by Act 262, Session Laws of Hawaii 2016, and  
27 the need for any revision; and  
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29           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to  
30 include the following members:  
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32           (1) The Governor, or the Governor's designee;  
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34           (2) The Director of Health, or the Director's designee;  
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36           (3) A Deputy Superintendent of the Department of  
37 Education, to be designated by the Superintendent;  
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39           (4) A member of the Senate, to be designated by the  
40 President of the Senate;  
41



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- 1 (5) A member of the House of Representatives, to be  
2 designated by the Speaker of the House of  
3 Representatives; and  
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- 5 (6) A member of the Board of Education to be designated by  
6 the Board Chairperson; and  
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8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members select a  
9 chairperson from amongst themselves; and  
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11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the chairperson of the task  
12 force is requested to invite the following or their designees to  
13 join the task force:  
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- 15 (1) The Chair of the Hawaii High School Athletic  
16 Association Football Committee;  
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- 18 (2) The President of the Hawaii Athletic Trainers'  
19 Association;  
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- 21 (3) Members representing youth football coaches in the Pop  
22 Warner Leagues in the State; and  
23
- 24 (4) Members representing medical professionals with  
25 expertise in concussions and traumatic brain injuries;  
26 and  
27

28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to  
29 submit a report of its findings and recommendations, including  
30 any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than  
31 twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of  
32 2019; and  
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34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force be dissolved on  
35 June 30, 2019; and  
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37 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
38 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Director of Health,  
39 Chair of the Board of Education, Superintendent of Education,  
40 President of the Senate, Speaker of the House of  
41 Representatives, Executive Director of the Hawaii High School



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1 Athletic Association, and President of the Hawaii Athletic  
2 Trainers' Association.

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OFFERED BY:

*Josh Mee*  
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