HOUSE RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH,
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES, AND JUDICIARY TO PERMANENTLY
ESTABLISH AND PARTICIPATE IN THE HAWAII INTERAGENCY STATE
YOUTH NETWORK OF CARE TO BETTER SERVE YOUTH AND FAMILIES
WITH COMPLEX NEEDS IN THE STATE.

WHEREAS, the Department of Education, Department of Health,
Department of Human Services, and Judiciary are responsible for
serving the multiple needs of children, youth, and families; and

WHEREAS, many children, youth, and families, particularly
those with complex educational, behavioral, and social-emotional
needs, experience significant challenges and hardship navigating
the State's child-serving system; and

WHEREAS, children and youth with complex needs who do not
receive services face numerous negative consequences, including
lower educational achievement, increased likelihood of
involvement in the juvenile justice system, and fewer stable and
longer-term placements in the child welfare system than their
peers; and

WHEREAS, to better serve children, youth, and families, the
Department of Education, Department of Health, Department of
Human Services, and Judiciary have committed to the goals of the
Child and Adolescent Service System Program, including to:

(1) Promote the development of a wide array of services to
meet the needs of identified children;

(2) Integrate multiple services into a well-coordinated
system of care to make sure children are receiving the
most appropriate services; and

(3) Increase the ability of parents and professionals to
work together for the benefit of the children; and

WHEREAS, a seamless system of care has numerous positive
outcomes for children and youth, including the improvement of
school attendance and grades; increasing stability of living
situations; and decreasing behavioral health challenges, suicide
rates, substance abuse, and involvement in the juvenile justice
system; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Education, Department of Health,
Department of Human Services, and Judiciary formed the Hawaii
Interagency State Youth Network of Care (HISYNC) to increase
collaboration among state agencies and to develop a system of
care for children, youth, and families; and

WHEREAS, representatives of children, youth, and families
are included as valued HISYNC members and regularly attend
meetings to give recommendations and to ensure that the child-
serving system is responsive to the needs of children, youth,
and families; and

WHEREAS, the HISYNC members primarily work to improve
outcomes for Hawaii's children, youth, and families through:

(1) The continuous review and analysis of data to identify
areas for system and service improvement;

(2) The recommendation of policies to address barriers
within the child-serving system;

(3) Collaboration, coordination, and integration of state
programs, services, and resources;

(4) Planning on joint treatment and management of specific
youth; and

(5) Stakeholder problem-solving around multi-agency
challenges; and

WHEREAS, HISYNC has implemented and supported several
multi-agency initiatives to promote interagency collaboration,
including:

(1) A multi-agency memorandum of operation to formalize
partnership of the state agencies comprising the
interagency committee and to firmly establish the
commitee's mission and vision;

(2) A multi-agency consent form for information sharing
that streamlines the process for parents to access
care, thus alleviating the often duplicative and
numerous forms that parents need to complete and sign;

(3) A jointly-funded independent facilitator position to
carry out the daily activities of HISYNC and the
Hawaii Interagency Local Youth Network of Care
(HILYNC) committees;

(4) An annual interagency report with data on youth
served, costs, and outcomes, which brings together the
story of youth in Hawaii with respect to how they are
being served and supported by child-serving agencies;

(5) Facilitating the development of local and regional
HILYNC groups, also known as HILYNC committees, to
promote interagency collaborative work on the local
level; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
Twenty-ninth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
of 2018, that the Department of Education, Department of Health,
Department of Human Services, and Judiciary are urged to
permanently establish HISYNC; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education,
Department of Health, Department of Human Services, and
Judiciary are urged to participate in HISYNC and HILYNC; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any additional child-serving
agencies not currently members of HISYNC are urged to
participate in HISYNC's interagency forum and send local
representatives to each of the regional HILYNC committees; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that HISYNC is urged to coordinate
the complex landscape of the child-serving system to better
serve children, youth, and families; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Superintendent of Education, Director of Health, Director of Human Services, and Administrative Director of the Courts.

OFFERED BY: 

[Signatures]

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