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## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE HAWAII STATE COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN TO  
CONVENE A TASK FORCE TO STUDY MISSING AND MURDERED NATIVE  
HAWAIIAN WOMEN AND GIRLS.

1           WHEREAS, indigenous women and girls are victims of violence  
2 at far greater rates than any other population in the United  
3 States; and

4  
5           WHEREAS, women and children in Hawaii are facing a  
6 widespread epidemic of violence and sex trafficking; and

7  
8           WHEREAS, First Nations in Canada organized a mass movement  
9 to expose the crisis of missing and murdered indigenous women  
10 and girls, which led to a national report and declaration of a  
11 national emergency; and

12  
13           WHEREAS, the Urban Indian Health Institute published the  
14 report "Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women and Girls: A  
15 snapshot of data from 71 urban cities in the United States" in  
16 2018 to document the crisis of missing and murdered indigenous  
17 women and girls in the United States; and

18  
19           WHEREAS, this report did not include Hawaii nor any  
20 information on Native Hawaiian women and girls; and

21  
22           WHEREAS, Native Hawaiian women as a group are more  
23 economically vulnerable than Native Hawaiian men, earning  
24 seventy cents for every dollar a man makes, and seventy-nine  
25 cents for every dollar a Native Hawaiian man makes; and

26  
27           WHEREAS, historical trauma has increased the vulnerability  
28 of Native Hawaiian women and girls to sex trafficking and other  
29 forms of violent crimes; and  
30



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1 WHEREAS, harmful colonial stereotypes have resulted in the  
2 sexual fetishization of Native Hawaiian women; and

3  
4 WHEREAS, Native Hawaiian women, girls, and members of the  
5 lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer community  
6 disproportionately experience factors that put them at high risk  
7 of being victims of sex trafficking and being involved with the  
8 sex industry; and

9  
10 WHEREAS, state government agencies are required by various  
11 federal and state laws to tackle sex trafficking and collect  
12 data; and

13  
14 WHEREAS, the Office of Hawaiian Affairs published the  
15 report "Haumea: Transforming the Health of Native Hawaiian  
16 Women and Empowering Wahine Well-Being" in 2018, and noted that  
17 there was no data specific to the human trafficking of Native  
18 Hawaiian women and girls; and

19  
20 WHEREAS, the Hawaii State Commission on the Status of  
21 Women, in partnership with Arizona State University, surveyed  
22 sex trafficking victims and found that in 2018, seventy-seven  
23 percent were Native Hawaiian, and then subsequently found that  
24 sixty-four percent were Native Hawaiian in 2019; and

25  
26 WHEREAS, from 2017 to 2019, one out of every three child  
27 sex trafficking victims reported to the Child Welfare Services  
28 child sex trafficking hotline were Native Hawaiian, and ninety-  
29 five percent were girls; and

30  
31 WHEREAS, family members must often rely on alert mechanisms  
32 for missing children, including physical message boards at  
33 stores and social media outlets; and

34  
35 WHEREAS, the State should be listening to Native Hawaiians  
36 and identifying ways to increase reporting on missing and  
37 murdered Native Hawaiian women and girls; and

38  
39 WHEREAS, nine states have passed legislation to address the  
40 missing and murdered indigenous women and girl crisis; now,  
41 therefore,



1 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
2 Thirty-first Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
3 of 2021, the Senate concurring, that the Hawaii State Commission  
4 on the Status of Women is requested to convene a task force to  
5 conduct a study regarding missing and murdered Native Hawaiian  
6 women and girls; and  
7

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force comprise the  
9 following members or their designees:  
10

- 11 (1) The Executive Director of the Hawaii State Commission  
12 on the Status of Women, who shall serve as a co-chair  
13 of the task force;  
14
- 15 (2) The Chief Executive Officer of the Office of Hawaiian  
16 Affairs, who shall serve as a co-chair of the task  
17 force;  
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- 19 (3) The Director of Health;  
20
- 21 (4) The Director of Human Services;  
22
- 23 (5) The Administrative Director of the Courts;  
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- 25 (6) The Attorney General;  
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- 27 (7) The Chair of the County Committee on the Status of  
28 Women of each respective county; and  
29
- 30 (8) The Chief of Police of each respective county; and  
31

32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force also invite  
33 representatives of the following organizations to serve on the  
34 task force:  
35

- 36 (1) One representative from Papa Ola Lokahi;  
37
- 38 (2) One representative from the Sex Abuse Treatment  
39 Center;  
40
- 41 (3) One representative from Hale Kipa;  
42



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1 (4) One representative from Residential Youth Services and  
2 Empowerment;

3  
4 (5) One representative from Susannah Wesley Community  
5 Center; and

6  
7 (6) One representative from Ho'ōla Nā Pua; and  
8

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force may invite  
10 additional organizations or agencies to participate on the task  
11 force; and  
12

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to  
14 include the following in its study:  
15

16 (1) Identifying the cause of the problem;  
17

18 (2) Identifying current databases and data collection  
19 methods;  
20

21 (3) Identifying barriers to data collection and  
22 information sharing;  
23

24 (4) Creating partnerships to increase reporting and  
25 investigations; and  
26

27 (5) Recommending any legislation necessary to improve data  
28 collection and sharing to eliminate harm to indigenous  
29 women and girls; and  
30

31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hawaii State Commission on  
32 the Status of Women is requested to provide administrative  
33 support for the task force; and  
34

35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force submit a  
36 preliminary report of its findings and recommendations,  
37 including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later  
38 than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session  
39 of 2023, and a final report, including any additional proposed  
40 legislation, no later than twenty days prior to the convening of  
41 the Regular Session of 2024; and  
42



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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
2 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Attorney General,  
3 Director of Health, Director of Human Services, Administrative  
4 Director of the Courts, Executive Director of the Hawaii State  
5 Commission on the Status of Women, Chief Executive Officer of  
6 the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, Chair of each County Committee  
7 on the Status of Women, Chief of Police of each county, Chief  
8 Executive Officer of Hale Kipa, President of Ho'ōla Nā Pua,  
9 Executive Director of Papa Ola Lokahi, Executive Director of  
10 Residential Youth Services and Empowerment, Executive Director  
11 of the Sex Abuse Treatment Center, and President of the Susannah  
12 Wesley Community Center.

13  
14  
15

OFFERED BY:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stanley M. ...", is written over a horizontal line.

JAN 22 2021

