



Resolution in Support of the Child Welfare Provider Inclusion Act

Whereas faith based organizations have been the cornerstone of the child welfare system for decades;

Whereas the first amendment to the U.S. Constitution guarantees religious freedom by restricting Congress from establishing a national religion or prohibiting the free exercise thereof;

Whereas during the Obama administration, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) had implemented social services regulations that required faith based agencies to violate their religious values, especially with regard to the sexual morality and promotion of the natural family structure, or discontinue providing services thereby diminishing the services provided to the community;

Whereas during the Trump administration HHS proposals to rectify this violation of religious liberty were championed;

Whereas the most permanent protections are those established in law, and Senators Lankford and Scott have introduced a bill to protect faith-based adoption providers from discrimination in the Senate and Representative Kelly has introduced a companion bill in the House;

Whereas the proposed Child Welfare Provider Inclusion Act would protect faith-based child welfare providers from being discriminated against for following their deeply held religious beliefs in the execution of their social services duties; and

Whereas these "Inclusion Acts" will diversify and expand the availability of adoption services offered to the community, thus making more homes available to children needing a family; now, therefore, be it

Resolved that the Hawai'i Republican Party in virtual convention on May 15, 2021:

1. urges Hawai'i's Congressional Delegation to support the passage of the Child Welfare Provider Inclusion Acts that support faith-based child welfare service providers;
2. urges Hawai'i legislators to pass a similar bill at the state level; and

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3. will post copies of this resolution on the Hawai'i Republican Party website and transmit copies to the Governor of the State of Hawai'i, the Lieutenant Governor, members of the Hawai'i State Legislature, Hawai'i Congressional representatives and the Mayors of each County.

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