



## DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

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### **Hawaii Attorney General Joins 43 State Attorneys General Urging Congress to Pass the Veteran Treatment Court Coordination Act**

HONOLULU – Attorney General Clare E. Connors, along with a bipartisan coalition of 44 state attorneys general, is urging Congress to further support Veteran Treatment Courts by passing the Veteran Treatment Court Coordination Act of 2019. Veteran Treatment Courts are diversionary court processes, similar to drug and mental health courts, used for minor, non-violent offenses. These courts pair veterans with mentors to address substance abuse and mental health issues and assist veterans with obtaining United States Veterans Administration benefits that can help them with treatment and employment. There are currently over 450 Veteran Treatment Courts in 40 states and territories.

“Hawaii has a significant veteran population and currently has two Veterans Treatment Courts – one in the City and County of Honolulu and one in Hawaii County,” said Attorney General Connors. “I urge Congress to support these courts, expand their presence, and re-affirm our shared commitment to veterans.”

In a letter to Senate leaders, Attorney General Connors and 43 other attorneys general wrote to encourage the passage of House Resolution 886, the Veteran Treatment Court Coordination Act of 2019. House Resolution 886 would establish a Veteran Treatment Court Program in the United States Department of Justice to provide grants and technical assistance to state, local and tribal courts that implement Veteran Treatment Courts.

To read the full letter, click [here](#).

Florida Attorney General Ashley Moody sponsored the letter. New Mexico Attorney General Hector Balderas co-sponsored the letter. The Attorneys General from the following states and territories signed the letter: Alabama, Alaska, American Samoa, Arizona, California, Colorado, Delaware, District of Columbia, Guam, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New

Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Texas, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia and Wisconsin.

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