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## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENTS OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES TO STUDY THE IMPACT OF DELAYS IN MEDICAID/QUEST ELIGIBILITY ON ACUTE CARE AVAILABILITY AND HOSPITAL REIMBURSEMENTS FOR WAIT-LISTED PATIENTS.

1           WHEREAS, hospital patients who are waiting for transfer to  
2 long term care occupy acute care beds, creating unnecessary  
3 shortages of beds for acute care, increasing uncompensated costs  
4 for hospitals and maintaining them under levels of care that are  
5 inappropriate to their needs; and

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7           WHEREAS, one reason for the delay in moving patients out of  
8 hospitals is that most long term care facilities require a  
9 source of payment before accepting the transfer, and

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11           WHEREAS, many wait-listed patients are eligible but not  
12 enrolled in Medicaid/QUEST; and

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14           WHEREAS, Medicaid/Quest is allowed up to 45 days to  
15 determine eligibility but the amount of time required to reach  
16 the decision is often extended; and

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18           WHEREAS, hospitals receive no reimbursement from commercial  
19 payers for patient wait-listed days and either receives partial  
20 retroactive reimbursement from Medicaid, usually at rates  
21 substantially below cost, or no reimbursement at all; and

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23           WHEREAS, these unreimbursed costs impose a significant  
24 financial burden on acute care hospitals throughout the state;  
25 now, therefore

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27           BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
28 Twenty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
29 of 2006, the Senate concurring, that the Departments of Health

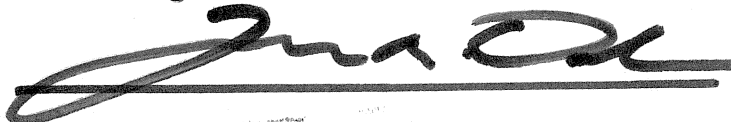

1 and Human Services are requested to study the impact of delays  
2 in Medicaid/QUEST eligibility on acute care availability and  
3 hospital reimbursements for wait-listed patients; and  
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5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Departments of Health and  
6 Human Services are requested to report their findings and  
7 recommendations to the Legislature no later than twenty days  
8 prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2007; and

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
10 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Health,  
11 the Department of Human Services, the Healthcare Association of  
12 Hawaii and the Hawaii Long Term Care Association.

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OFFERED BY: \_\_\_\_\_



MAR 15 2006