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# SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE COOPERATION FROM THE LEGISLATURE AND THE  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO FACILITATE THE DEVELOPMENT OF A  
REGIONAL HEALTH INFORMATION ORGANIZATION IN HAWAII.

1           WHEREAS, the delivery of health care is becoming an  
2 increasingly complex process calling upon the coordination of  
3 various caregivers; and  
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5           WHEREAS, it is becoming vitally important for caregivers to  
6 be able to securely and rapidly exchange information regarding a  
7 particular patient or groups of patients in order to deliver  
8 timely, effective, and efficient medical care; and  
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10           WHEREAS, there are initiatives being undertaken both at the  
11 state and federal level, across the United States, to develop  
12 Regional Health Information Organizations, which will facilitate  
13 the secure and rapid exchange of patient-identified information  
14 across the broad spectrum of physicians, hospitals, and other  
15 health care providers within a state and across state borders  
16 when needed; and  
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18           WHEREAS, there is increasing evidence that the development  
19 of these information exchange systems will not only result in  
20 better and more timely care, but also more cost-efficient and  
21 error-free care; and  
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23           WHEREAS, an information exchange system will greatly  
24 benefit the people of the State of Hawaii, and greatly improve  
25 the quality, timeliness, and cost-effectiveness of the medical  
26 care they receive if hospitals, health plans, physicians, and  
27 other health care providers are able to securely and rapidly  
28 exchange information regarding the treatment rendered to a  
29 particular patient or groups of patients; and  
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31           WHEREAS, the Hawaii Health Information Exchange, Inc. is a  
32 nonprofit corporation recently formed by key stakeholders in the  
33 Hawaii health care community including representatives from



1 various hospitals, health insurers, physician organizations, and  
2 other health care providers; and  
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4 WHEREAS, the Hawaii Health Information Exchange, Inc. is  
5 dedicated to the formation and operation of a health information  
6 exchange system in the State of Hawaii, which would allow a  
7 secure and rapid exchange of medical information; and  
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9 WHEREAS, the support of the Legislature as well as the  
10 Department of Health is vital to the success of the Hawaii  
11 Health Information Exchange, Inc.'s effort to create a patient-  
12 driven health information technology system, which will  
13 accommodate the participation of all the important health care  
14 stakeholders within the State of Hawaii, including but not  
15 limited to hospitals, health insurers, physicians, laboratories,  
16 pharmacies, employers, and nursing homes; and  
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18 WHEREAS, moreover, the support from the Legislature and the  
19 Department of Health will improve patient safety and quality of  
20 care, reduce costs because of coordination of care and  
21 elimination of duplicative tests and procedures, and enable  
22 informed and accountable patients to participate in improving  
23 their own health; now, therefore,  
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25 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-third  
26 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2006, the  
27 House of Representatives concurring, that the Legislature  
28 support the efforts of the Hawaii Health Information Exchange,  
29 Inc. in forming and operating a health information exchange  
30 system, which will securely and rapidly exchange medical  
31 information to improve the quality of medical care delivered to  
32 the people of the State of Hawaii; and  
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34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Health  
35 participate in the formation of a health information exchange  
36 system by sending representatives to the meetings of the Hawaii  
37 Health Information Exchange, Inc. and otherwise assist the  
38 organization in carrying out its mission and purpose; and  
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40 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all licensed health insurers,  
41 hospitals, laboratories, pharmacies, employers, nursing homes,  
42 and physicians be urged to participate in the meetings and  
43 activities of the Hawaii Health Information Exchange, Inc., and  
44 to contribute financially and in-kind to the support and



1 development of the organization in furtherance of its charitable  
2 mission; and

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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
5 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the President of the  
6 Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the  
7 Director of Health, the President of the Hawaii Science and  
8 Technology Council, and the President and CEO of the Healthcare  
9 Association of Hawaii.

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OFFERED BY:

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