

MAR 15 2006

S.R. NO. 89

SENATE RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEVELOPMENT OF A LONG-TERM CARE INFRASTRUCTURE PLAN
FOR HAWAII TO ENSURE PUBLIC SAFETY WHILE SUPPORTING AGING
IN PLACE.

1 WHEREAS, compared to the total population in Hawaii, the
2 number of elderly increased by eleven per cent in 2005, and will
3 increase by twenty-two per cent annually by 2030, with the
4 number of those over sixty-five years of age increasing from
5 130,000 in 2005 to over 275,000 in 2030; and

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7 WHEREAS, while agreeable living accommodations and physical
8 surroundings are necessary for the well-being of all people, it
9 is even more important to the elderly whose abodes are the
10 center of virtually all of their activities; and

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12 WHEREAS, the impact of moving to an institutionalized
13 setting is significant and can adversely affect the older
14 adult's quality of life; and

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16 WHEREAS, elders, when surveyed, indicate a preference for
17 receiving services at home or in a home-like setting, and the
18 cost of providing care and assistance is lower the closer it is
19 to home or in a home-like setting; and

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21 WHEREAS, the practice of facilitating aging in place is
22 part of an evolving continuum of care for the elderly that
23 attempts to keep the well elderly living in the community for as
24 long as possible before resorting to institutional services; and

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26 WHEREAS, the long-term care infrastructure in the State,
27 such as skilled nursing facilities, intermediate care
28 facilities, care homes, foster family homes, assisted living
29 facilities, retirement residential living, home services, and
30 other basic services, are not growing fast enough to keep pace
31 with the growing needs of the elderly in our communities; and

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33 WHEREAS, the various county building and fire codes
34 throughout the State are fragmented; now, therefore,

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1 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-third
2 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2006 that
3 the Department of Health's Office of Health Care Assurance and
4 the Department of Human Services' Adult and Community Care
5 Services Branch are requested to convene a task force of
6 stakeholders to develop a long-term care infrastructure plan for
7 Hawaii to ensure public safety while supporting aging in place;
8 and

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10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to:

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12 (1) Review current Department of Health and Department of
13 Human Services regulations regarding, but not limited
14 to, structural compliance, quality of care, and
15 quality of life with regard to the elderly;
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17 (2) Focus on the balance between allowing aging in place
18 and the State's responsibility to ensure that the
19 safety of residents and their quality of care are not
20 compromised; and
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22 (3) Attempt to identify inconsistencies, disparities, and
23 non-uniformity in laws and regulations at the state
24 and county levels of government, including current
25 county building and fire codes, within the context of
26 how they do or do not contribute materially to the
27 public policy standards of resident safety and quality
28 of care; and

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30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to:

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32 (1) Submit a preliminary report of its findings and
33 recommendations, including any proposed legislation,
34 to the Legislature at least twenty days prior to the
35 convening of the Regular Session of 2007; and
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37 (2) Submit its final report of its findings and
38 recommendations, including any proposed legislation,
39 to the Legislature at least twenty days prior to the
40 convening of the Regular Session of 2008; and
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42 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
43 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, the mayors and the
44 chairpersons of the respective county councils, the Director of



1 Health, the Director of Human Services, the Executive Director
 2 of the Executive Office on Aging, the Hawaii Long-Term Care
 3 Association, the Healthcare Association of Hawaii, the Maui
 4 Long-Term Care Partnership, the Alliance of Residential Care
 5 Administrators, the Adult Foster Home Association of Hawaii, and
 6 Assisted Living Options Hawaii.

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