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## HOUSE RESOLUTION

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REQUESTING THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU TO STUDY RESPITE  
CARE.

1 WHEREAS, family caregiver is the term used to refer to an  
2 unpaid individual, including a family member, friend, or  
3 neighbor, who provides full- or part-time care to another  
4 individual in need and either lives separately from or with the  
5 care recipient; and

6  
7 WHEREAS, individuals who need the assistance of family  
8 caregivers typically have complex, chronic medical conditions  
9 and functional limitations; and

10  
11 WHEREAS, it is estimated that fourteen to twenty-one per  
12 cent of adults, or 126,598 to 192,390 individuals, in the State  
13 provide regular care or assistance to another individual aged  
14 sixty years or older; and

15  
16 WHEREAS, family caregivers provide an invaluable service  
17 and economic benefit to care recipients and State taxpayers by  
18 way of deferred paid caregiving and institutionalization; and

19  
20 WHEREAS, nationally, if the work of family caregivers had  
21 to be replaced by paid home care staff, the estimated cost would  
22 be forty-five to ninety-four billion dollars per year; and

23  
24 WHEREAS, sustainable family caregiving depends on meeting a  
25 family caregiver's own needs for support and respite care; and

26  
27 WHEREAS, although there are different approaches to respite  
28 care, the basic objective is to provide a family caregiver with  
29 temporary relief from the responsibilities of caring for a care  
30 recipient so that the family caregiver can attend to other  
31 personal and professional obligations; and

32  
33 WHEREAS, respite care can include a range of services such  
34 as medical or social adult day care or a short-term stay in a  
35 nursing home or assisted living facility for the care recipient,



1 a home health aide or home health companion, or a private duty  
2 nurse or adult foster care; and

3  
4 WHEREAS, a study of respite care and the provision of  
5 respite care in other states would be helpful to establishing  
6 respite care programs for family caregivers in this State; now,  
7 therefore,

8  
9 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
10 Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular  
11 Session of 2007, that the Legislative Reference Bureau is  
12 requested to study respite care; and

13  
14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Reference  
15 Bureau's study should:

16  
17 (1) Focus on the provision of respite care to family  
18 caregivers who provide care to other individuals aged  
19 sixty years or older or to chronically ill adults; and

20  
21 (2) Include:

22  
23 (A) A compilation of the various definitions used to  
24 describe the term "respite care";

25  
26 (B) A description of the respite care policies and  
27 programs that other states have adopted or  
28 considered;

29  
30 (C) A description of how other states assess the  
31 quality of respite care provided in those states;  
32 and

33  
34 (D) An inventory of the respite services provided in  
35 Hawaii that are supported by federal, state, and  
36 county funds, including a description of each  
37 program and the amount and source of funding; and

38  
39 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Reference  
40 Bureau is requested to submit a report of its findings to this  
41 body no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the  
42 2008 Regular Session; and



1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this  
2 Resolution be transmitted to the Acting Director of the  
3 Legislative Reference Bureau.  
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5  
6

OFFERED BY:

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