HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO EVALUATE THE VISITING HOURS PRACTICES OF HAWAII'S ADULT RESIDENTIAL CARE HOMES.

WHEREAS, Hawaii's residents are frequently blessed with long lives; and

WHEREAS, adult children of aging seniors are often unable to care for their parents due to their own occupational or familial obligations; and

WHEREAS, this unfortunately means that, increasingly, the golden years of our seniors must be spent in adult residential care homes; and

WHEREAS, a key element of a senior's ability to live comfortably and enjoyably in a managed care setting is the access they have to family members who are able to visit; and

WHEREAS, working individuals are often unable to visit their aging parents and other elderly family members during normal daytime hours and are sometimes prohibited from visiting during evenings; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2007, that the Department of Health is requested to evaluate the practices of Hawaii's adult residential care homes with regard to visiting hours, and make recommendations on how relatives of care home residents may be granted greater flexibility in visitation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Department of Health is requested to report its findings, including any necessary proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2008; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Health and the Director of the Executive Office on Aging.

OFFERED BY:

MAR 1 2 2007