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## SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

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REQUESTING THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU TO STUDY RESPITE  
CARE AND REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES TO  
PROVIDE AN INVENTORY OF THE RESPITE SERVICES PROVIDED IN  
HAWAII.

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

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

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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

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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

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

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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



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2 WHEREAS, respite care can include a range of services such  
3 as medical or social adult day care or a short-term stay in a  
4 nursing home or assisted living facility for the care recipient,  
5 a home health aide or home health companion, or a private duty  
6 nurse or adult foster care; and  
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8 WHEREAS, a study of respite care and the provision of  
9 respite care in other states would be helpful to establishing  
10 respite care programs for family caregivers in this State; now,  
11 therefore,  
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13 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fourth  
14 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2007, the  
15 House of Representatives concurring, that:  
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- 17 (1) The Legislative Reference Bureau is requested to study  
18 respite care; and  
19  
20 (2) The Department of Human Services is requested to  
21 provide an inventory of the respite services provided  
22 in Hawaii; and  
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24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Reference  
25 Bureau's study should:  
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- 27 (1) Focus on the provision of respite care to family  
28 caregivers who provide care for:  
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30 (A) Their children with special health care needs;  
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32 (B) Adult family members, or other individuals, aged  
33 sixty years or older with a disability; or  
34  
35 (C) Chronically ill adults; and  
36  
37 (2) Include:  
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39 (A) A compilation of the various definitions used to  
40 describe the term "respite care";  
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42 (B) A description of the respite care policies and  
43 programs that other states have adopted or  
44 considered; and



1  
2 (C) A description of how other states assess the  
3 quality of respite care provided in those states;  
4 and  
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6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Reference  
7 Bureau is requested to submit a report of its findings to the  
8 Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of  
9 the 2008 Regular Session; and  
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11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Human  
12 Services is requested to submit a report to the Legislature no  
13 later than twenty days prior to the convening of the 2008  
14 Regular Session; and  
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16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Human  
17 Services' report is requested to include an inventory of the  
18 respite services provided in Hawaii that are supported by  
19 federal, state, and county funds, including a description of  
20 each program, eligibility criteria, quality and safety  
21 monitoring procedures, evaluation and quality improvement  
22 processes, and the amount and source of funding; and  
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24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
25 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Human  
26 Services and the Acting Director of the Legislative Reference  
27 Bureau.

