

MAR 14 2007

SENATE RESOLUTION

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

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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

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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

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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

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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,

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

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

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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

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21 (2) Include:

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

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

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

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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

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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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OFFERED BY:

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