

MAR 14 2007

SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU TO STUDY THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CASH AND COUNSELING PROGRAM IN OTHER
STATES.

1 WHEREAS, Cash and Counseling is a national program
2 sponsored by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the Office of
3 the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation at the
4 United States Department of Health and Human Services, and the
5 Administration on Aging; and
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7 WHEREAS, under the program, recipients of Medicaid personal
8 care services or home- and community-based services receive a
9 flexible monthly allowance and decide who to hire and what
10 services they want to receive; and
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12 WHEREAS, the program's innovative approach enables
13 participants to direct and manage their personal assistance
14 services according to their own specific needs; and
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16 WHEREAS, participants receive counseling and fiscal
17 assistance to help them manage their allowance and
18 responsibilities; and
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20 WHEREAS, participants can choose a family member or friend,
21 in lieu of an agency worker, to provide the services; and
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23 WHEREAS, the program was first implemented in Arkansas, New
24 Jersey, and Florida, and has since expanded to include twelve
25 other states; and
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27 WHEREAS, the potential exists to establish a similar Cash
28 and Counseling program here in Hawaii to serve the needs of
29 residents receiving Medicaid personal care services or home- and
30 community-based services; and
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32 WHEREAS, a study of the Cash and Counseling program and its
33 implementation in the other states would be useful in
34 establishing a similar program here in Hawaii; now, therefore,
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1 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fourth
 2 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2007,
 3 that the Legislative Reference Bureau is requested to study the
 4 Cash and Counseling program and its implementation in other
 5 states, including Arkansas, New Jersey, and Florida; and
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7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in completing its study, the
 8 Legislative Reference Bureau should:
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- 10 (1) Contact the National Program Office at the Boston
 11 College Graduate School of Social Work, which
 12 coordinates replications of the program;
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- 14 (2) Consult with the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the
 15 Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and
 16 Evaluation at the United States Department of Health
 17 and Human Services, and the Administration on Aging;
 18 and
 19
- 20 (3) Research the possible use of a similar approach for
 21 individuals who are not Medicaid recipients; and
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23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Reference
 24 Bureau is requested to submit a report of its findings to this
 25 body no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the
 26 2008 Regular Session and
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28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this
 29 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of the Legislative
 30 Reference Bureau.
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OFFERED BY:

[Signature]
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