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# HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII JOHN A. BURNS SCHOOL OF  
MEDICINE'S TELEHEALTH RESEARCH INSTITUTE TO FORM A TASK  
FORCE TO REVIEW THE POTENTIAL EXPANSION OF THE CURRENT  
PRACTICES AND EQUIPMENT OF HAWAII'S TELEMEDICINE SYSTEM.

1           WHEREAS, access to knowledgeable and qualified medical  
2 doctors is arguably the single most important factor for people  
3 to live long and healthy lives; and  
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5           WHEREAS, Hawaii's unique geography as an island chain poses  
6 difficulties for patients seeking to access medical doctors  
7 without incurring significant travel costs; and  
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9           WHEREAS, other states with access-to-care issues in  
10 isolated communities are exploring ways to ease difficulties for  
11 both patients and medical doctors, by using methods that allow  
12 both parties to travel no further than their own neighborhoods  
13 to interact; and  
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15           WHEREAS, one approach to the access problem in Hawaii would  
16 be to expand the state's relatively new telemedicine system to  
17 include the facilitation of cost effective health care services,  
18 coordination of these services, and management of chronic  
19 diseases; and  
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21           WHEREAS, greater access to health care through telemedicine  
22 would extend medical information and physicians' care throughout  
23 the state, without requiring patients to leave their home  
24 island; and  
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26           WHEREAS, after telemedicine was first implemented in 1998  
27 by former Governor Benjamin Cayetano as a pilot project, it  
28 became clear, even in its earliest stage, that there are endless  
29 possibilities for telemedicine and associated health care  
30 delivery to change lives for the better; and

1  
2 WHEREAS, it would be in the best interest for the residents  
3 of Hawaii to continue to explore the possibilities of expanding  
4 the current telemedicine and associated health care delivery  
5 system to encompass the State's twelve hospitals; now,  
6 therefore,  
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8 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
9 Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular  
10 Session of 2008, the Senate concurring, that the University of  
11 Hawaii John A. Burns School of Medicine's Telehealth Research  
12 Institute (TRI) is requested to form a task force to explore the  
13 feasibility of further implementation of the telemedicine  
14 system's health care services so that citizens of Hawaii may  
15 benefit from it; and  
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17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that TRI is requested to direct the  
18 task force to examine the following issues:  
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- 20 (1) Current use of telemedicine and equipment;  
21  
22 (2) Costs for expansion;  
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24 (3) Timeframe for full implementation of an expansion  
25 project;  
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27 (4) Potential difficulties or problems that may arise  
28 during or after implementation; and  
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30 (5) Broader issues addressed at the November 15, 2007,  
31 Hawaii Telehealth Collaborative Symposium, including:  
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33 (A) Business models;  
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35 (B) Reimbursement and funding;  
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37 (C) Coordination and collaboration;  
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39 (D) Added value and incentives; and  
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41 (E) Political will and institutional leadership;

42 and  
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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in forming the task force, TRI  
2 is requested to include:

- 3  
4 (1) The Director of Health or the Director's designee;  
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6 (2) The Dean of the John A. Burns School of Medicine at  
7 the University of Hawaii or the Dean's designee;  
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9 (3) The President and Chief Operating Officer of the  
10 Hawaii Health Systems Corporation or the President and  
11 Chief Operating Officer's designee;  
12  
13 (4) One member from a for-profit health care organization;  
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15 (5) One member from a nonprofit hospital or health care  
16 organization;  
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18 (6) One member from the Hawaii Medical Service  
19 Association;  
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21 (7) The Chairperson of the Hawaii Telehealth Collaborative  
22 Symposium steering committee or the Chairperson's  
23 designee;  
24  
25 (8) The Chief Executive Officer of the Hawaii Primary Care  
26 Association or the Chief Executive Officer's designee;  
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28 (9) The President of the Hawaii Psychiatric Medical  
29 Association's Psychiatric Rural Health Collaborative  
30 or the President's designee;  
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32 (10) The Director of Human Services of the Director's  
33 designee;  
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35 (11) The Executive Director of the American Telemedicine  
36 Association or the Executive Director's designee;  
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38 (12) The Director of the Telecommunication and Information  
39 Policy Group or the Director's designee;  
40  
41 (13) The Board President of the Hawaii Rural Health  
42 Association or the Board President's designee;  
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1 (14) The Executive Director of the Hepatitis Support  
2 Network of Hawaii or the Executive Director's  
3 designee; and  
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5 (15) Any other person as determined by the Director of TRI;  
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7 and

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that TRI is requested to appoint all  
9 members of the task force no later than thirty days after the  
10 adjournment sine die of the Regular Session of 2008, and is  
11 requested to convene the initial meeting of the task force  
12 within thirty days after appointment of its members; and  
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14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that TRI is required to provide  
15 necessary administrative, professional, technical, and clerical  
16 support to the task force; and  
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18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to  
19 submit a preliminary report of its findings and recommendations  
20 to the Legislature no later than 20 days prior to the convening  
21 of the 2009 Regular Session, and a final report of its findings  
22 and recommendations, including any necessary proposed  
23 legislation, not later than 20 days prior to the convening of  
24 the 2010 Regular Session; and  
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26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
27 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Director  
28 of Health, Director of Human Services, Dean of the John A. Burns  
29 School of Medicine, President and Chief Operating Officer of the  
30 Hawaii Health Systems Corporation, Chairperson of the Hawaii  
31 Telehealth Collaborative Symposium steering committee, Chief  
32 Executive Officer of the Hawaii Primary Care Association,  
33 President of the Hawaii Psychiatric Medical Association,  
34 Executive Director of the American Telemedicine Association,  
35 Director of the Telecommunication and Information Policy Group,  
36 Board President of the Hawaii Rural Health Association, and  
37 Executive Director of the Hepatitis Support Network of Hawaii.  
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