
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, THROUGH ITS OFFICE OF HEALTH CARE ASSURANCE TO IMPLEMENT A PROGRAM TO PROMOTE AND DEVELOP AND TO INSURE AN ADEQUATE SUPPLY OF ELDERLY HEALTH CARE FACILITIES AND SERVICES BY PROVIDING EDUCATION, TRAINING AND SUPPORT TO THE HEALTH CARE FACILITIES THEY REGULATE.

1 WHEREAS, the legislature also finds that a very serious
2 issue facing our state is the lack of capacity currently in our
3 community to provide adequate care in community-based
4 residential settings; and

5

6 WHEREAS, this is true not only for individuals with
7 disabilities, but for the vast majority of elderly individuals
8 in need of basic medical care or assistance with their
9 activities of daily living; and

10

11 WHEREAS, this lack of capacity will become more exacerbated
12 over time, as the baby boomer population becomes of that age
13 where it has an increasing need for assisted living; and

14

15 WHEREAS, the legislature further finds that one of the
16 unfortunate results of this lack of capacity has been a
17 disturbing increase in the number of Hawaii residents discharged
18 from hospitals or treatment facilities in Hawaii to facilities
19 on the mainland; and

20

21 WHEREAS, the legislature finds this to be an unacceptable
22 situation As an island community, we have a responsibility to
23 take care of our elders and individuals with disabilities in a
24 proper fashion; and

25

26 WHEREAS, the notion of shipping our kupuna to the mainland
27 merely because they are old or ill and are occupying valuable
28 space in a hospital while they are waiting for a bed to open up
29 at a nursing home or care home is shocking; and

30



1 WHEREAS, the legislature finds that the Department of
2 Health has the mandate to promote health in the state by
3 ensuring that there is an adequate supply of elderly health care
4 facilities and services; and

5
6 WHEREAS, the Department of Health is mandated to reverse
7 this alarming trend of sending our local elders and citizens
8 with disabilities to the mainland simply because they failed to
9 provide adequate capacity to care for them here at home; and

10
11 WHEREAS, the Department of Health must take affirmative
12 action to build, develop, and increase our state's capacity to
13 care for our people in a way that preserves their dignity and
14 allows them to reside in a community-based setting and receive
15 care appropriate to their needs; now, therefore,

16
17 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
18 Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
19 Session of 2008, the Senate concurring, that the Department of
20 Health is requested to promote health in the state by ensuring
21 that there is an adequate supply of elderly health care
22 facilities and services to care for Hawaii's needed; and

23
24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Health
25 examine and determine the adequacy of the statutes,
26 administrative rules, and inspection and enforcement processes,
27 and make recommendations to modify them in order to promote,
28 develop and expand residential care facilities for the disabled
29 and elderly; and

30
31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Health
32 provide community-based care and foster homes with education,
33 training and support to ensure its expansion to meet the
34 increasing demand; and

35
36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Health
37 is requested to submit a report to the Legislature no later than
38 twenty days prior to the convening of the 2009 Regular Session;
39 and

40 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
41 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Health
42 and the Attorney General.

1

OFFERED BY: Side of O'Connell

~~_____~~
Mary Lee

John
Cindy Evans

2
Tom Burr

Ray Lambert

~~_____~~
Karen Wilson

MAR 10 2008

