
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES TO WORK TOGETHER TO DEVELOP A STANDARDIZED, UNIFORM, INDUSTRY-FRIENDLY POLICY TO PROTECT THE ELDERLY WITHOUT COMPROMISING RESIDENT CARE, AND THAT ENCOURAGES MORE PEOPLE TO BECOME ADULT RESIDENTIAL CARE HOME OR ADULT FOSTER HOME OPERATORS.

1 WHEREAS, adult residential care home (ARCH) and adult
2 foster home (AFH) operators provide an invaluable service to the
3 greater community; and
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5 WHEREAS, ARCH and AFH operators save taxpayers substantial
6 sums of money that would otherwise be expended for the care of
7 the elderly and disabled if they were to become wards of the
8 State; and
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10 WHEREAS, many operators are beset by tough challenges such
11 as the high cost of liability insurance that threaten their
12 continued existence; and
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14 WHEREAS, caring for ARCH and AFH operators' clients is a
15 profession that is becoming increasingly necessary in the face
16 of Hawaii's ever-expanding elderly population; and
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18 WHEREAS, with the rising cost of living in Hawaii it has
19 become increasingly common for multiple family members in a home
20 to hold down several jobs leaving little time for the 24-hour
21 care of an aging relative, increasing the need for ARCH and AFH
22 facilities; and
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24 WHEREAS, many of the large assisted-living facilities are
25 well beyond the financial reach of some families who need
26 assistance with a loved one; and
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1 WHEREAS, it is estimated that by the year 2020, one in four
2 persons in this state will be over the age of 60, illustrating
3 the critical need for ARCH and AFH operators; and
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5 WHEREAS, ARCH and AFH operators provide for all aspects of
6 a person's needs from scheduling of doctor's appointments or
7 physical therapy programs to providing social interaction with
8 those residents who no longer have family near to them to visit;
9 and
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11 WHEREAS, there are situations where the Department of
12 Health (DOH) and the Department of Human Services (DHS) are
13 involved in licensure, inspection, and enforcement of ARCHs and
14 AFHs; and
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16 WHEREAS, an ARCH or AFH that cares for chronically ill
17 residents needing skilled nursing care will be subject to DOH's
18 medical-based guidelines and DHS's policies based on a social
19 services point of view; and
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21 WHEREAS, subjecting ARCH and AFH facilities to two sets of
22 rules and policies causes confusion, which may negatively
23 influence a resident's care, and cause frustration to employees
24 in jobs that are inherently stressful; now, therefore,
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26 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
27 Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
28 Session of 2008, the Senate concurring, that DOH and DHS are
29 urged to work together to develop a standardized, uniform,
30 industry-friendly policy to protect the elderly without
31 compromising resident care, and that encourages more people to
32 become ARCH or AFH operators; and
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34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
35 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Director
36 of Health, and Director of Human Services.
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Joseph M. ...
Mil. ...
Karen ...

OFFERED BY:

John M. ...
Rida ...
Steve M. ...
Michael H. ...
Paul ...

HCR HMS 2008-1082



JAN 14 2008