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## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO ESTABLISH A TASK FORCE ON AGING TO EXAMINE THE NEED FOR AND FEASIBILITY OF, AND TO PREPARE PRELIMINARY PLANS FOR, THE CONSOLIDATION OF PUBLICLY FUNDED PROGRAMS AND SERVICES THAT WOULD APPROPRIATELY FALL WITHIN THE JURISDICTION OF A NEW DEPARTMENT OF AGING.

1           WHEREAS, in 1980, older adults comprised twelve per cent of  
2 the State's total population and in 2000, the population nearly  
3 doubled, with over two hundred seven thousand older adults  
4 comprising seventeen per cent of Hawaii's total population; and  
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6           WHEREAS, according to a May 2006 report prepared by the  
7 Executive Office on Aging, by the year 2020, persons aged sixty  
8 and older will constitute nearly one-third, or thirty per cent,  
9 of Hawaii's adult population; and  
10

11           WHEREAS, the number of persons who are eighty-five years of  
12 age and older is projected to continue to increase dramatically,  
13 from 5,561 in 1980 to 33,800 in 2020; and  
14

15           WHEREAS, the array of publicly funded programs and services  
16 that serve the older population in the areas of health care,  
17 disability services, insurance, long-term care, caregiver  
18 support, Medicaid, Medicare, and institutional and community-  
19 based adult care, for example, are scattered among various state  
20 departments; and  
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22           WHEREAS, these programs and services help to meet the  
23 multi-faceted needs of older adults and are provided by various  
24 county, state, federal, private, and not-for-profit entities but  
25 can be challenging for care recipients, caregivers, and families  
26 to navigate; and  
27



1 WHEREAS, as a central agency, the Executive Office on Aging  
2 currently coordinates some of the programs and services  
3 available to Hawaii's older population; however, the scope and  
4 magnitude of overlapping issues facing the elderly may  
5 necessitate action at the department level where resources and  
6 personnel can be more efficiently allocated and top-level  
7 policymakers can focus directly on the multi-faceted needs of  
8 Hawaii's older population; now, therefore,  
9

10 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
11 Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular  
12 Session of 2008, the Senate concurring, that the Department of  
13 Health is requested to establish a Task Force on Aging to  
14 examine the need for and feasibility of, and to prepare  
15 preliminary plans for, the consolidation of publicly funded  
16 programs and services that would appropriately fall within the  
17 jurisdiction of a new Department of Aging; and  
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19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Health is  
20 requested to include the following as members of the Task Force  
21 on Aging:  
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- 23 (1) Two members of the Senate to be appointed by the  
24 President of the Senate;  
25
- 26 (2) Two members of the House of Representatives to be  
27 appointed by the Speaker of the House of  
28 Representatives;  
29
- 30 (3) The Director of Health or a designee, as an ex-  
31 officio, non-voting member;  
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- 33 (4) The Director of Human Services or a designee, as an  
34 ex-officio, non-voting member;  
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- 36 (5) The Director of Transportation or a designee, as an  
37 ex-officio, non-voting member;  
38
- 39 (6) The Director of Finance or a designee, as an ex-  
40 officio, non-voting member;  
41
- 42 (7) The Attorney General or a designee, as an ex-officio,  
43 non-voting member;  
44



- 1           (8) One representative from the City and County of  
2           Honolulu Elderly Care Division;
- 3
- 4           (9) One representative from the Hawaii County Office of  
5           Aging;
- 6
- 7           (10) One representative from the Maui County Office on  
8           Aging;
- 9
- 10          (11) One representative from the Kauai Agency on Elder  
11          Affairs;
- 12
- 13          (12) One representative from the Policy Advisory Board for  
14          Elderly Affairs;
- 15
- 16          (13) One representative from CARE Hawaii, Inc.;
- 17
- 18          (14) One representative from the Hawaii Caregiver  
19          Coalition;
- 20
- 21          (15) One representative from the Hawaii Alliance of Retired  
22          Americans; and
- 23
- 24          (16) One representative from the Kokua Council; and
- 25

26           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Task Force on Aging is  
27 requested to gather input from:

- 28
- 29          (1) The Department of Health, the Department of Human  
30          Services, the Department of Transportation, the  
31          University of Hawaii, and the Executive Office on  
32          Aging regarding specific programs and services, to be  
33          identified by their current State of Hawaii program  
34          structure identification numbers, currently within  
35          their respective jurisdictions, that would  
36          appropriately fall within the jurisdiction of the new  
37          Department of Aging;
- 38
- 39          (2) The Department of Budget and Finance, the Department  
40          of Human Resources Development, the Department of the  
41          Attorney General, and the Department of Accounting and  
42          General Services regarding the budget, personnel,  
43          legal, and administrative impacts of shifting programs



1 from the specified departments to the new Department  
2 of Aging; and  
3

- 4 (3) The Policy Advisory Board for Elderly Affairs, the
- 5 Hawaii Alliance of Retired Americans, the Kokua
- 6 Council, the Hawaii Aging Advocates Coalition, AARP
- 7 Hawaii, the Hawaii Caregiver Coalition, the City and
- 8 County of Honolulu Elderly Care Division, the Hawaii
- 9 County Office of Aging, the Maui County Office on
- 10 Aging, the Kauai Agency on Elder Affairs, and other
- 11 elderly, disability, business, and faith based
- 12 organizations and advocates regarding the need for a
- 13 specific Department of Aging and the programs and
- 14 services that would appropriately fall within the
- 15 jurisdiction of the new Department of Aging; and
- 16

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Task Force on Aging is  
 18 requested to submit its findings and recommendations, including  
 19 necessary proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than  
 20 twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of  
 21 2009. The Executive Office on Aging is requested to assist the  
 22 Task Force on Aging in preparing the report; and  
 23

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
 25 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Directors of Health,  
 26 Human Services, Human Resources Management, Transportation, and  
 27 Finance, the Comptroller, Attorney General, the Mayors of the  
 28 respective counties, the Chairperson of the Policy Advisory  
 29 Board for Elderly Affairs, and the Director of the Executive  
 30 Office on Aging who, in turn, is requested to transmit copies to  
 31 CARE Hawaii, Inc., Hawaii Caregiver Coalition, Hawaii Alliance  
 32 of Retired Americans, the Hawaii Aging Advocates Coalition,  
 33 American Association of Retired Persons Hawaii, and the Kokua  
 34 Council.  
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OFFERED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

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 John M. Green  
 Josh Green M.D.  
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