
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES TO CONDUCT A PUBLIC
AWARENESS CAMPAIGN FOR THE QUEST-ACE HEALTH INSURANCE
PROGRAM.

1 WHEREAS, improving Hawaii's healthcare safety net is a
2 sensible goal that results in a healthier community; and
3

4 WHEREAS, a three-year survey conducted between 2003-2005
5 indicated that approximately 13 percent of adults age 19-64 were
6 uninsured, or more than 99,000 people; and
7

8 WHEREAS, although Hawaii's Prepaid Health Care Act requires
9 employers to provide insurance coverage to employees who work at
10 least 20 hours per week, there is a gap group of uninsured
11 adults; and
12

13 WHEREAS, this gap group includes the working poor who have
14 part-time jobs and don't earn enough to pay for private
15 insurance programs, but their incomes make them ineligible to
16 participate in existing state programs; and
17

18 WHEREAS, QUEST-ACE (Adult Coverage Expansion) is a health
19 insurance program designed to cover up to 20,000 gap group
20 adults; and
21

22 WHEREAS, QUEST-ACE is open to adults with children, the
23 blind and disabled, and some small business owners; and
24

25 WHEREAS, QUEST-ACE includes a variety of benefits and
26 services, including outpatient visits, inpatient hospital days,
27 mental health visits, and limited prescription drug and dental
28 benefits; and



1 WHEREAS, language and interpreter services are also
2 included, a much-needed benefit for those with limited English-
3 speaking skills; and

4
5 WHEREAS, the burden on overcrowded emergency rooms will be
6 eased since insurance coverage will encourage early,
7 preventative health care; and

8
9 WHEREAS, coverage provided under QUEST-ACE will likely
10 result in savings to hospitals that lose an estimated
11 \$150,000,000 per year providing care to the uninsured or
12 underinsured; and

13
14 WHEREAS, an innovative program such as QUEST-ACE needs to
15 be adequately publicized to the approximately 99,000 uninsured
16 adults in Hawaii; now, therefore,

17
18 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
19 Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
20 Session of 2008, the Senate concurring, that the Legislature
21 urges the Department of Human Services (DHS) to conduct a public
22 awareness campaign for the QUEST-ACE health insurance program;
23 and

24
25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED in its public awareness campaign,
26 DHS is requested to create literature that could be included in
27 utility statements such as gas, water, and electric bills, and
28 posters or flyers that could be posted at all University of
29 Hawaii system campuses, community health centers, welfare
30 service centers, and nonprofit human service organizations; and

31
32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
33 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Human
34 Services.

35
36
37

OFFERED BY:

John M. DeLoach
Rep. P. Hanabusa *Tom Blowers*
Karen Awana
Ministry Myaway

