
HOUSE 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
4

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
9

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
13

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
17

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
23

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
27



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
4

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
10

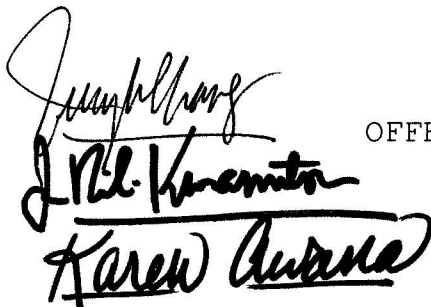
11 WHEREAS, there are situations where the Department of
12 Health (DOH) and the Department of Human Services (DHS) are
13 involved in licensure, inspection, and enforcement of ARCHs and
14 AFHs; and
15

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
20

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,
25

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, that DOH and DHS are urged to work together to
29 develop a standardized, uniform, industry-friendly policy to
30 protect the elderly without compromising resident care, and that
31 encourages more people to become ARCH or AFH operators; and
32

33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
34 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Director of Health,
35 and Director of Human Services.
36

37
38
39


OFFERED BY:

