

JAN 23 2008

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE AUDITOR TO ASSESS THE SOCIAL AND FINANCIAL
EFFECTS OF REQUIRING HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR
COLONOSCOPY COLORECTAL CANCER SCREENING.

1 WHEREAS, "colorectal cancer" is a collective term that
2 refers to both cancer of the colon and cancer of the rectum; and
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4 WHEREAS, according to the Centers for Disease Control and
5 Prevention, colorectal cancer is the second highest cancer
6 killer in the United States after lung cancer; and
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8 WHEREAS, excluding skin cancers, the American Cancer
9 Society counts colorectal cancer as the third most commonly
10 occurring cancer in the United States, affecting both men and
11 women; and
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13 WHEREAS, the American Cancer Society estimates that there
14 were approximately 153,760 new colorectal cancer diagnoses made
15 in the United States in 2007, which the Society forecasts will
16 cause the deaths of over 52,000, or roughly one-third, of those
17 afflicted; and
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19 WHEREAS, colorectal cancer is one of the most treatable
20 forms of cancer when diagnosed early through available screening
21 techniques, including colonoscopy; and
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23 WHEREAS, colonoscopy is considered a safe and highly
24 effective diagnostic technique that studies have found to be
25 more accurate and less invasive than other forms of screening,
26 and that Duke University Medical Center reported in 2004 is the
27 "most reliable way to find colon cancer and the growths that
28 could become colon cancer"; and
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30 WHEREAS, in the current session, various bills have been
31 introduced in both legislative chambers that would mandate



1 health insurance coverage beginning at age fifty for a
2 colonoscopy screening every ten years; and

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4 WHEREAS, section 23-51, Hawaii Revised Statutes, requires
5 that:

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7 "Before any legislative measure that mandates health
8 insurance coverage for specific health services, specific
9 diseases, or certain providers of health care services as
10 part of individual or group health insurance policies, can
11 be considered, there shall be concurrent resolutions passed
12 requesting the auditor to prepare and submit to the
13 legislature a report that assesses both the social and
14 financial effects of the proposed mandated coverage"; and

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16 WHEREAS, section 23-52, Hawaii Revised Statutes, outlines
17 the specific topics to be addressed in the Auditor's report
18 required under section 23-51, Hawaii Revised Statutes; now,
19 therefore,

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21 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fourth
22 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2008, the
23 House of Representatives concurring, that the Auditor is
24 requested to conduct an impact assessment report pursuant to
25 sections 23-51 and 23-52, Hawaii Revised Statutes, of the social
26 and financial impact of mandating coverage for colorectal cancer
27 screening by colonoscopy every ten years, beginning at age
28 fifty, as further described by Senate Bill No. _____ and House
29 Bill No. _____; and

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31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Auditor is requested to
32 submit a report on its findings and recommendations to the
33 Legislature, which shall include mention of any necessary
34 implementing legislation, at least twenty days prior to the
35 convening of the Regular Session of 2009; and

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37 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
38 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Auditor and the
39 Insurance Commissioner, who, in turn, is requested to transmit



S.C.R. NO. 40

1 copies to each organization that issues health insurance
2 policies in the State.

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OFFERED BY: *Franne Chun Alland*

