
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE, THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, AND THE GOVERNOR TO CREATE A HOME FOR LIFE TASK FORCE TO REDUCE BARRIERS TO AGING IN PLACE AND TO FACILITATE MULTIGENERATIONAL LIVING.

1 WHEREAS, by the year 2010, the population of older adults,
2 defined as individuals sixty years of age and older, will
3 increase by twenty per cent, and according to the Executive
4 Office on Aging's *Hawaii State Plan on Aging, 2008-2011*, by the
5 year 2030 more than one in four individuals is expected to be an
6 older adult; and

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8 WHEREAS, the growing proportion of older adults will pose
9 significant challenges to the State's economic, physical, and
10 social infrastructure; and

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12 WHEREAS, the Executive Office on Aging expects a
13 significant increase in demand for services and housing for
14 older adults, and has identified the need to establish more
15 housing options and formulate flexible and creative service
16 models to accommodate older adults and individuals with
17 disabilities and their wide range of needs; and

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19 WHEREAS, the United States Administration on Aging's
20 blueprint for long-term care systems, *Choices for Independence*,
21 promotes the goal of enabling older adults to remain in their
22 own homes with a high quality of life for as long as possible;
23 and

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25 WHEREAS, according to United States Census Bureau, Census
26 2000 data, over seventy-four per cent of older adults in Hawaii
27 own their own homes; and

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29 WHEREAS, multigenerational housing serves the dual purpose
30 of facilitating the provision of support services to older
31 adults and persons with disabilities by family caregivers while



1 additionally providing shelter for families struggling with the
2 scarcity of affordable housing; and

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4 WHEREAS, various building code provisions prevent families
5 from converting existing homes into multigenerational homes; and

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7 WHEREAS, given the high percentage of older adults who own
8 their own homes and the expected surge of demand for housing for
9 older adults as that population grows, it is important to
10 identify structural modifications that will accommodate the
11 physical limitations and needs of older adults and persons with
12 disabilities; and

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14 WHEREAS, modifications to preexisting structures will
15 require individualized assessments by architectural, medical,
16 and construction professionals properly trained to identify
17 limitations and medical conditions of older adults and persons
18 with disabilities and suggest viable modifications to
19 accommodate these limitations and medical conditions; and

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21 WHEREAS, if new construction projects and renovations to
22 preexisting structures incorporate principles of universal
23 design, which foster environments that are usable by all people
24 without the need for adaptation or specialized design, the
25 projects and renovations will facilitate future
26 multigenerational living and improve the likelihood that older
27 adults and persons with disabilities can "age in place" or
28 remain in their own homes with a high quality of life; and

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30 WHEREAS, the public should be educated about the benefits
31 of universal design and the use of universal design principles
32 to facilitate multigenerational living and allow older adults
33 and persons with disabilities to age in place or remain in their
34 own homes; now, therefore,

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36 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
37 Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
38 of 2009, the Senate concurring, that the Joint Legislative
39 Committee on Aging in Place requests the President of the
40 Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the
41 Governor to form the Home for Life Task Force to coordinate
42 research and action to reduce barriers to aging in place and to
43 facilitate multigenerational living; and

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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the President of the Senate,
2 the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the Governor
3 shall each appoint six individuals from the following categories
4 to serve on the task force: master-planned community developers;
5 architects or planners who have a background in universal design
6 or are designated as certified aging-in-place specialists;
7 contractors with experience developing multigenerational homes;
8 contractors with experience renovating existing homes to
9 facilitate aging in place; trade or professional organizations
10 involved in developing housing; the Hawaii chapters of the
11 American Institute of Architects, American Society of Interior
12 Design, and American Physical Therapy Association; the Building
13 Industry Association; AARP Hawaii; the state Disability and
14 Communications Access Board; county building officials; the
15 state Building Code Council, created by Act 82, Session Laws of
16 Hawaii 2007; educational institution administrators; the Hawaii
17 Association of Realtors; the Healthcare Association of Hawaii;
18 private agencies that assist older adults and individuals with
19 disabilities with housing issues; and members of the community
20 who have first-hand experience with aging in place and
21 multigenerational living; and
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23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Joint Legislative Committee
24 on Aging in Place may assist the President of the Senate, the
25 Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the Governor, in
26 coordinating appointments to the task force; and
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28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force may add
29 additional members which the task force believes may contribute
30 to the work of the task force, and shall at its first meeting
31 select a Home for Life Task Force chairperson who shall be
32 responsible for convening future meetings; and
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34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is directed to
35 examine the following issues:
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37 (1) Building and zoning codes that present barriers to
38 converting an existing single-family dwelling into a
39 multigenerational home, and to:
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41 (A) Identify any previous legislative attempts to
42 facilitate the creation of multigenerational
43 homes;
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(B) Recommend legislation for reasonable and appropriate changes to building and zoning codes that will facilitate the creation of or conversion to multigenerational homes;

(C) Draft recommendations to submit to the state Building Code Council that will facilitate the creation of multigenerational housing; and

(D) Identify public and private entities that resist changes to the building and zoning codes that would allow multigenerational housing, and the reasons behind the resistance; and

(2) Modifications that can be made to existing homes that would allow older adults and persons with disabilities to age in place or remain in their own homes for a longer period of time, and to further identify:

(A) The most common impairments faced by older adults and persons with disabilities that limit their ability to remain at home;

(B) Structural modifications that can be made to dwelling structures to accommodate the most common impairments;

(C) The costs associated with the foregoing structural modifications; and

(D) Sources of funding, supplies, and voluntary labor to complete the structural modifications, including: suppliers willing to donate or provide at a reduced cost tools, equipment, and supplies; available public or private loan or grant programs that would finance the modifications; and the potential use of building industry apprentices or volunteers to provide labor for the modifications (and to further identify amendments to licensing requirements under title 25, Hawaii Revised Statutes, that may be necessitated by the use of apprentices or volunteers); and



- 1 (3) Mechanisms by which personnel may be trained to
2 analyze and make recommendations for structural
3 modifications to existing structures, and, in
4 particular, to pinpoint:
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 - 6 (A) Agencies or individuals who currently engage in
7 assessing homes for structural modification, and
8 evaluating practices for assessments currently in
9 place;
 - 10 (B) Skills necessary to conduct structural
11 modification assessments and the feasibility of
12 introducing training programs relating to these
13 skills in local educational institutions; and
 - 14 (C) The viability of including in the training and
15 assessment process an evaluation team comprising
16 medical, architectural, and construction
17 professionals; and
- 18 (4) The use of universal design principles in new
19 construction projects and renovations of existing
20 structures, prioritizing the investigation of:
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 - 22 (A) Incentives that would motivate builders and
23 developers to incorporate universal design
24 principles;
 - 25 (B) Programs used in other states to support
26 universal designs;
 - 27 (C) The existence of industry support for creating a
28 certification program for universal design
29 structures, and the subsequent creation of a
30 symbol signifying universal design certification
31 to be used by real estate professionals and
32 development marketers in their advertising
33 campaigns; and
 - 34 (D) Proposed amendments to existing building and
35 zoning codes to facilitate the incorporation of
36 universal design principles; and



1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Home for Life Task Force is
2 directed to:

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4 (1) Create a comprehensive guide for older adults and
5 persons with disabilities that lists resources
6 available for structural modification of their homes,
7 including sources of low-cost or free supplies,
8 voluntary labor, and available grants or loan
9 programs;
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11 (2) Prepare a guide to incorporating universal design
12 principles into construction design and renovation, to
13 be made available to architectural and building
14 professionals and the public;
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16 (3) Collect examples of best practices in retrofitting
17 existing homes, designing and building
18 multigenerational housing, and using universal design
19 principles in both retrofitted and new construction,
20 and solicit ideas and suggestions from professionals
21 and students of architecture, interior design,
22 gerontology, and construction;
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24 (4) Encourage the Building Industry Association of Hawaii
25 to include in its annual "Parade of Homes" one new
26 universal design home, one home that was renovated
27 using universal design principles, and one home
28 adapted for multigenerational living;
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30 (5) Organize an exhibit of best practices to be made
31 available for viewing across the State;
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33 (6) Solicit ideas from older adults and persons with
34 disabilities relating to the designs they believe
35 would facilitate comfortable continued living in their
36 own homes; and
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38 (7) Submit a report of its findings and recommendations to
39 the Legislature and to the Joint Legislative Committee
40 on Aging in Place no later than twenty days prior to
41 the convening of the 2010 Regular Session; and
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43 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that state and county building and
44 zoning councils, including the State Building Code Council,



1 select representatives from their respective departments to
2 assist the Home for Life Task Force in its work; and

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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Co-Chairs of the Joint
5 Legislative Committee on Aging in Place may provide
6 administrative assistance to the task force; and

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8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the University of Hawaii Center
9 on Aging shall convene the first meeting of the Home for Life
10 Task Force and may provide any possible assistance to the work
11 of the Home for Life Task Force; and

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13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
14 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, the
15 President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of
16 Representatives, the Director of the Executive Office on Aging,
17 the Executive Director of the Building Code Council, the
18 Comptroller, the Director of Health, the Director of Human
19 Services, the Executive Director of the Hawaii Housing Finance
20 and Development Corporation, the Licensing Administrator for the
21 Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs Professional
22 Licensing Division, the President of the University of Hawaii
23 System, the Executive Director of the Legal Aid Society of
24 Hawaii, and the President of the Building Industry Association
25 of Hawaii.

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