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# HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE GOVERNOR TO DESIGNATE, AND ASSERTING THE  
LEGISLATURE'S ENDORSEMENT OF, THE HAWAII HEALTH INFORMATION  
EXCHANGE, INC. TO SERVE AS THE STATE'S QUALIFIED STATE-  
DESIGNATED ENTITY TO EFFECTIVELY COORDINATE HEALTH  
INFORMATION EXCHANGE TECHNOLOGY INITIATIVES TO ENSURE THAT  
HAWAII IS ABLE TO RAPIDLY RESPOND TO AND QUALIFY FOR GRANT  
FUNDING THROUGH THE AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT  
OF 2009 FOR HEALTH CARE INFORMATION EXCHANGE TECHNOLOGY.

1           WHEREAS, Hawaii is on its way to becoming a national leader  
2 in the field of health care technology as demonstrated by recent  
3 innovations in online care, telehealth services, and electronic  
4 medical records; and

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6           WHEREAS, the State's unique geographic location  
7 necessitates fostering cutting-edge ideas and technologies to  
8 help overcome obstacles to access medical care especially for  
9 the disadvantaged and disabled populations and those residing in  
10 rural areas; and

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12           WHEREAS, real-time sharing of comprehensive patient-  
13 centered medical information between consumers and providers  
14 will decrease medical errors, reduce costs, enhance adherence to  
15 best practice guidelines, and advance improvements in quality  
16 health care; and

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18           WHEREAS, establishing and developing health information  
19 exchanges within the United States has become increasingly  
20 significant, reflecting the changing role that information  
21 technology plays in the way government and businesses operate;  
22 and

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24           WHEREAS, critically needed information can be provided  
25 immediately and can play a major role in recovery efforts in  
26 times of national and local disasters, such as Hurricane

1 Katrina, with the establishment and development of health  
2 information exchanges within the United States; and

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4 WHEREAS, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009  
5 contains funding opportunities for states to improve their  
6 medical technology infrastructure related, specifically for  
7 creating a health information exchange and promoting the use of  
8 electronic medical records; and

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10 WHEREAS, funding under the American Recovery and  
11 Reinvestment Act of 2009 will support the growth, expansion, and  
12 use of health information technology, through a public-private  
13 partnership among all interested health care stakeholders, to  
14 build a statewide health information exchange network to  
15 decrease medical errors, improve the quality of health care, and  
16 reduce costs for the people of Hawaii; and

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18 WHEREAS, the Hawaii Health Information Exchange, Inc., is a  
19 501(c) non-profit organization recently formed by key  
20 stakeholders in the Hawaii health care community including  
21 representatives from various hospitals, health insurers,  
22 physician organizations, federal community health centers, and  
23 other health care providers; and

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25 WHEREAS, the Hawaii Health Information Exchange, Inc. is  
26 dedicated to the formation and operation of a health information  
27 exchange system in the State of Hawaii, which would allow a  
28 secure and rapid exchange of medical information; and

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30 WHEREAS, the Hawaii Health Information Exchange, Inc. is  
31 dedicated to making any changes necessary to ensure that federal  
32 requirements are met to qualify Hawaii for funding through the  
33 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009; and

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35 WHEREAS, the Hawaii Health Information Exchange, Inc. has  
36 pledged to raise private funds that will match state funds for  
37 health information technology initiatives; and

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39 WHEREAS, the key stakeholders in the community that make up  
40 the Hawaii Health Information Exchange are already mobilizing so  
41 that Hawaii can be one of the first states to apply for federal  
42 health information technology grant funding; now, therefore,

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1 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
2 Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
3 of 2009, the Senate concurring, that the Legislature urges the  
4 Governor to designate, and asserts the Legislature's endorsement  
5 of, the Hawaii Health Information Exchange, Inc. to serve as the  
6 State's qualified state-designated entity to effectively  
7 coordinate, in cooperation with the Department of Health, health  
8 information exchange technology initiatives to ensure that  
9 Hawaii is able to rapidly respond to and qualify for funding  
10 through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 for  
11 health care information exchange technology; and  
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13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature fully supports  
14 and endorses the designation of the Hawaii Health Information  
15 Exchange, Inc. as the qualified state-designated entity to  
16 effectively coordinate health information exchange technology  
17 initiatives in Hawaii; and  
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19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Health and  
20 the Hawaii Health Information Exchange, Inc. are to ensure these  
21 efforts are in concert with guidance from our congressional  
22 delegation to maximize Hawaii's ability to secure the American  
23 Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 funding; and  
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25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Health and  
26 the Hawaii Health Information Exchange, Inc. are requested to  
27 invite organizations they deem necessary to participate in this  
28 coordinated effort; and  
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30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
31 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor; Hawaii's  
32 congressional delegation; the Director of Health; the Director  
33 of Human Services; the Director of Business, Economic  
34 Development, and Tourism; the Chief Executive Officer of the  
35 Hawaii Health Systems Corporation; the Dean of the John A. Burns  
36 School of Medicine; the Chief Executive Officer of the Hawaii  
37 Medical Service Association; the Chief Executive Officer of  
38 Kaiser Permanente Hawaii; the Chair of the Hawaii Broadband Task  
39 Force; the Chair of the Hawaii Telehealth Collaborative; the  
40 Chief Executive Officer of the Hawaii Health Information  
41 Exchange, Inc.; the Chief Executive Officer of the Hawaii  
42 Primary Care Association; the Chief Executive Officer of Hawaii  
43 Pacific Health; the Chief Executive Officer of The Queen's  
44 Health Services; the Chief Executive Officer of Waianae Coast

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- 1 Comprehensive Family Services; the President of Clinical
- 2 Laboratories of Hawaii; and the President of the Hawaii Medical
- 3 Association.