
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE AUDITOR TO CONDUCT A COMPARATIVE FINANCIAL AND
MANAGEMENT AUDIT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH'S COMMUNITY
MENTAL HEALTH CENTER AND WAI`ANAE'S INDEPENDENTLY OPERATED
COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH CENTER.

1 WHEREAS, the Department of Health seeks to improve the
2 mental health of Hawaii's people by reducing the prevalence of
3 emotional disorders and mental illnesses; and
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5 WHEREAS, services include mental health education,
6 treatment, and rehabilitation through community-based mental
7 health centers and private providers of services; and
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9 WHEREAS, there are nine community health centers in Hawaii
10 that provide mental health services; and
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12 WHEREAS, of the State's nine community health centers, Hale
13 Na`au Pono, also known as the Wai`anae Coast Community Mental
14 Health Center, is the only private nongovernmental organization;
15 the other eight centers operate under the Department of Health;
16 and
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18 WHEREAS, the transformation of the mental health services
19 in the State of Hawaii has been of primary concern of everyone
20 associated with such services, garnering a major federal grant
21 over several years for that purpose; and
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23 WHEREAS, the cost and quality of service in the State's
24 mental health system has been a source of major concern and
25 outcry among the people of Hawaii; and
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27 WHEREAS, Hale Na`au Pono originally operated as part of the
28 statewide system of mental health centers during the mid-1970's,
29 but it eventually separated from the Department of Health as a



1 demonstration model to serve the Wai`anae community as a separate
2 "catchment" area; and

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4 WHEREAS, Hale Na`au Pono incorporated in 1986 and opened its
5 doors as a private community-operated center in 1987, and, for the
6 past twenty-two years, it has continued to serve the Wai`anae
7 coast community and has accrued Commission on Accreditation of
8 Rehabilitation Facilities accreditation, recognition in its
9 leadership role for quality of service, and acclaim for its
10 cultural and social appropriateness of services and unique
11 recovery program called Voyage to Recovery; and

12
13 WHEREAS, Hale Na`au Pono has developed a range of services
14 far in excess of any state-operated Community Mental Health
15 Center, including a wide range of clinical levels of services,
16 housing programs across the community, an International Center
17 for Clubhouse Development-certified alcohol and drug treatment
18 program, smoking cessation program, and numerous other support
19 services to aid in the recovery from serious mental illnesses;
20 and

21
22 WHEREAS, there appears to be a lack of parity between
23 salary, benefits, cost reimbursements, staffing
24 qualifications, and other operational requirements between the
25 state-run Community Mental Health Centers and the Wai`anae
26 Community Mental Health Center; and

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28 WHEREAS, it would be appropriate to carry out a comparative
29 study of this twenty-two year old Wai`anae demonstration
30 community mental health center and the state-operated community
31 mental health centers that examines costs, contracts, national
32 accreditations, services provided, quality of services,
33 consumer satisfaction, and other relevant subjects; now,
34 therefore,

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36 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-
37 fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2009,
38 the Senate concurring, that the Auditor is requested to conduct a
39 financial, program, and management audit of the Department of
40 Health's community based mental health centers and the Wai`anae
41 Coast Community Mental Health Center, Hale Na`au Pono; and

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43 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Auditor is requested to
44 include in the financial, program, and management audit:




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- 2 (1) An assessment of all contracts issued to all of the
- 3 community health centers, including Hale Na`au Pono;
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- 5 (2) A cost analysis of operations comparing the state-run
- 6 centers and Hale Na`au Pono;
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- 8 (3) A comparison of salaries and benefits of comparable
- 9 positions at state-run centers and Hale Na`au Pono;
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- 11 (4) A comparison of the accreditation standards met over
- 12 the past two decades by the state-run centers and Hale
- 13 Na`au Pono;
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- 15 (5) The respective credentialing and certification or
- 16 licensing of the professional staff employed by state-
- 17 run centers and Hale Na`au Pono; and
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- 19 (6) Any other issues the Auditor deems relevant; and
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21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Adult Mental Health Division
 22 of the Department of Health, the community health centers operated
 23 by the Department of Health, Hale Na`au Pono, and other relevant
 24 persons or agencies are requested to cooperate with and assist
 25 the Auditor and to provide information requested by the Auditor;
 26 and

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 28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Auditor is requested to
 29 submit any findings and recommendations, including any proposed
 30 legislation, to the Legislature not later than twenty days prior
 31 to the convening of the Regular Session of 2010; and

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 33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 34 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, the Auditor,
 35 the Director of Health, and the President and Chairperson of the
 36 Executive Committee of Hale Na`au Pono.

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 39 OFFERED BY: 

MAR 18 2009

