
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING A SUNRISE REVIEW OF ATHLETIC TRAINERS.

1 WHEREAS, certified athletic trainers are health care
2 professionals who specialize in the prevention, assessment,
3 immediate care, treatment, referral, and rehabilitation of
4 injuries and illnesses sustained by athletes and others engaged
5 in physical activity; and
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7 WHEREAS, athletic trainers are certified by the National
8 Athletic Trainers Board of Certification, an independent
9 credentialing agency whose certifications are based upon
10 standards that provide protection to the public and indicate
11 that the athletic trainers have knowledge and skill in six
12 practice domains of athletic training; and
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14 WHEREAS, the Legislature has affirmed the value,
15 importance, and qualifications of certified athletic trainers in
16 the past by appropriating funds to place certified athletic
17 trainers in each of Hawaii's public secondary schools; and
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19 WHEREAS, in addition to the public secondary schools,
20 certified athletic trainers are employed in private secondary
21 schools, colleges and universities, physician offices,
22 hospitals, sports medicine clinics, the military, and fitness
23 centers; and
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25 WHEREAS, there are currently one hundred sixty-five
26 certified athletic trainers in the State of Hawaii; and
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28 WHEREAS, the University of Hawaii-Manoa has an accredited
29 athletic training curriculum; and
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31 WHEREAS, because the public has difficulty discerning the
32 difference between athletic trainers, personal trainers, and
33 boxing trainers, there is a risk that unqualified non-
34 credentialed persons will represent themselves as "trainers" and



1 mislead members of the public into believing that they are
2 receiving care from health care professionals; and

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4 WHEREAS, there is a risk that Hawaii's athletic population
5 could suffer consequences such as chronic pain, disability, or
6 loss of life if health care is received from unqualified
7 practitioners; and

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9 WHEREAS, athletic trainers routinely work with children as
10 young as twelve but are one of the few types of medical
11 professionals not regulated in Hawaii; and

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13 WHEREAS, licensure would ensure that Hawaii's athletic
14 population receives specialized emergency care and appropriate
15 treatment and rehabilitation and meet appropriate criteria
16 before being returned to play; and

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18 WHEREAS, licensure would require and verify, as is now
19 required of other health care professions, demonstration of
20 minimum competency in the profession; and

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22 WHEREAS, licensure would provide a mechanism to report and
23 remedy malpractice and ethical violations, thereby reducing an
24 existing threat of harm to the public; and

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26 WHEREAS, as Hawaii is one of the few states without
27 licensure there is no one to whom the National Athletic Trainers
28 Association Board of Certification can report disciplinary
29 actions to ensure that appropriate action is taken to protect
30 the public; and

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32 WHEREAS, section 26H-6, Hawaii Revised Statutes, requires a
33 review by the Auditor before enactment of a measure that would
34 subject an unregulated profession or vocation to licensing or
35 other regulatory control; and

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37 WHEREAS, Senate Bill No. was introduced in the 2009
38 Regular Session and calls for the regulation of athletic
39 trainers through licensure; now, therefore,

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41 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
42 Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
43 of 2009, the Senate concurring, that the Auditor is requested to



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1 perform a sunrise review regarding the licensure of athletic
2 trainers; and

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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Auditor is requested to
5 submit findings and recommendations, including any proposed
6 amendments to new legislation containing the elements of Senate
7 Bill No. , to the Legislature not later than twenty days
8 before the convening of the Regular Session of 2010; and

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10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this
11 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Auditor.

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OFFERED BY: *Sam W. Choy*

JAN 27 2009