
HOUSE RESOLUTION

URGING A STATE-LED COORDINATED EFFORT BY THE HEALTH CARE AND TECHNOLOGY COMMUNITIES TO ENSURE THAT HAWAII IS ABLE TO RAPIDLY RESPOND TO AND QUALIFY FOR GRANT MONEY OFFERED IN 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 and electronic medical records; and
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5 WHEREAS, the state's unique geographic location
6 necessitates fostering cutting-edge ideas and technologies to
7 help overcome obstacles to access medical care especially for
8 the disadvantaged and disabled populations and those residing in
9 rural areas; and
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11 WHEREAS, real-time sharing of comprehensive patient-
12 centered medical information between consumers and providers
13 will decrease medical errors, enhance adherence to best practice
14 guidelines, and advance improvements in quality health care; and
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16 WHEREAS, establishing and developing health information
17 exchanges within the United States (U.S.) has become
18 increasingly significant, reflecting the changing role that
19 information technology plays in the way government and
20 businesses operate; and
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22 WHEREAS, critically needed information can be provided
23 immediately and can play a major role in recovery efforts in
24 times of national and local disasters, such as Hurricane
25 Katrina, with the establishment and development of health
26 information exchanges within the U.S.; and
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28 WHEREAS, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009
29 (ARRA) contains funding opportunities for states to improve the
30 infrastructure related to medical technology, specifically for
31 creating a health information exchange and promoting the use of
32 electronic medical records; and



1 WHEREAS, funding under ARRA will support the growth,
2 expansion, and use of health information technology, through a
3 public-private partnership among all interested health care
4 stakeholders, to build a statewide health information exchange
5 network for the people of Hawaii; and
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7 WHEREAS, this partnership should include state agencies
8 responsible for designating an entity to be considered a "state
9 designated entity" qualified to receive funding under ARRA; and
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11 WHEREAS, stakeholders in the community are already
12 mobilizing so that Hawaii can be one of the first states to
13 apply for federal health information technology grant funding;
14 now, therefore,
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16 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
17 Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
18 of 2009, that this body urges the Department of Health (DOH),
19 Department of Human Services (DHS), and Department of Business,
20 Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT) to work jointly in
21 coordinating stakeholders in the health care community and the
22 technology community to ensure that Hawaii is able to rapidly
23 respond to and qualify for grant money offered in ARRA for
24 health care information exchange technology; and
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26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that DOH, DHS, and DBEDT ensure
27 these efforts are in concert with guidance from our
28 congressional delegation to ensure its effectiveness in securing
29 ARRA funding; and
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31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that DOH, DHS, and DEBDT are
32 requested to invite organizations they deem necessary to
33 participate in this coordinated effort; and
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35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
36 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor; Hawaii's
37 congressional delegation; the Director of Health; the Director
38 of Human Services; the Director of Business, Economic
39 Development, and Tourism; the Chief Executive Officer of the
40 Hawaii Health Systems Corporation; the Dean of the John A. Burns
41 School of Medicine; the Chief Executive Officer of the Hawaii
42 Medical Service Association; the Chief Executive Officer of
43 Kaiser Permanente Hawaii; the Chair of the Hawaii Broadband Task
44 Force; the Chair of the Hawaii Telehealth Collaborative; the



1 Chief Executive Officer of the Hawaii Health Information
2 Exchange, Inc.; the Chief Executive Officer of the Hawaii
3 Primary Care Association; and the President of the Hawaii
4 Medical Association.

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OFFERED BY:



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