
HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE AUDITOR TO ASSESS THE SOCIAL AND FINANCIAL
EFFECTS OF REQUIRING HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR
COLONOSCOPY COLORECTAL CANCER SCREENING.

1 WHEREAS, colorectal cancer is a collective term that refers
2 to both cancer of the colon and cancer of the rectum; and
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4 WHEREAS, according to the Centers for Disease Control and
5 Prevention, colorectal cancer is the second leading cause of
6 cancer deaths in the United States after lung cancer; and
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8 WHEREAS, excluding skin cancers, the American Cancer Society
9 counts colorectal cancer as the third most commonly occurring
10 cancer in the country, affecting both men and women; and
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12 WHEREAS, the American Cancer Society estimates that there
13 were approximately 108,070 new colorectal cancer diagnoses made
14 in 2008, which the Society forecasts will result in almost fifty
15 thousand deaths, or slightly less than one-half of those
16 afflicted; and
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18 WHEREAS, in Hawaii, seven hundred residents will be
19 diagnosed with colorectal cancer and over two hundred will die;
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22 WHEREAS, colorectal cancer is one of the most treatable
23 forms of cancer when diagnosed early through available screening
24 techniques, including the following techniques listed in the
25 American Cancer Society's 2008, revised colorectal guideline:
26 colonoscopy, flexible sigmoidoscopy, double contrast barium
27 enema, CT colonoscopy (virtual colonoscopy), fecal occult blood
28 test, fecal immunochemical test, and stool DNA test; and
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30 WHEREAS, recent studies by The Lewin Group and Milliman USA
31 show that the cost of cancer prevention and detection is \$.55 per
32 person per month, which is very low compared to the cost of
33 treatment; and
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1 WHEREAS, colonoscopy is considered a safe and highly
2 effective diagnostic technique that studies have found to be more
3 accurate and less invasive than other forms of screening and that
4 was reported by Duke University Medical Center, in 2004, to be
5 the "most reliable way to find colon cancer and the growths that
6 could become colon cancer"; and

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8 WHEREAS, House Bill No. 823 has been introduced during the
9 Regular Session of 2009 that proposes to mandate health insurance
10 screening coverage for colorectal cancer utilizing colonoscopy,
11 as well as screening tests and procedures recommended in the
12 American Cancer Society's 2008, revised colorectal cancer
13 guideline; and

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15 WHEREAS, section 23-51, Hawaii Revised Statutes, requires
16 that:

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18 "Before any legislative measure that mandates health
19 insurance coverage for specific health services, specific
20 diseases, or certain providers of health care services as
21 part of individual or group health insurance policies, can
22 be considered, there shall be concurrent resolutions passed
23 requesting the auditor to prepare and submit to the
24 legislature a report that assesses both the social and
25 financial effects of the proposed mandated coverage.."; and
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27 WHEREAS, section 23-52, Hawaii Revised Statutes, outlines
28 the specific topics to be addressed in the Auditor's report
29 required under section 23-51, Hawaii Revised Statutes; now,
30 therefore,

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32 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
33 Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
34 of 2009, that the Auditor is requested to conduct an impact
35 assessment report pursuant to sections 23-51 and 23-52, Hawaii
36 Revised Statutes, of the social and financial effects of
37 mandating coverage for colorectal cancer screening by colonoscopy
38 and screening tests and procedures as further described by House
39 Bill No. 823 (Regular Session of 2009); and

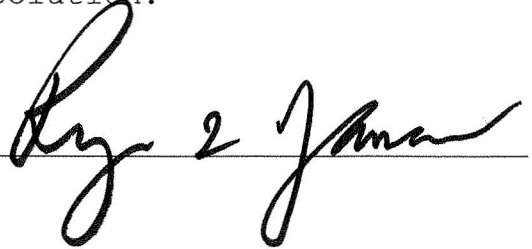
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41 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Auditor is requested to
42 submit a report on the Auditor's findings and recommendations to
43 the Legislature at least twenty days prior to the convening of
44 the Regular Session of 2010; and



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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Auditor and the Insurance Commissioner who, in turn, is requested to transmit copies to each organization that issues health insurance policies in the State that may be affected by the Resolution.

OFFERED BY:



MAR 11 2009

