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# SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

SUPPORTING THE HEALTH CARE COMMUNITY'S EFFORTS TO OBTAIN FEDERAL  
FUNDING FOR HEALTH INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY GRANTS.

1           WHEREAS, Hawaii is becoming a national leader in the field  
2 of health care technology as evidenced by recent innovations in  
3 online care and electronic medical records; and  
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5           WHEREAS, the State's unique geographic location  
6 necessitates that cutting edge ideas and technologies are  
7 fostered to help overcome issues regarding access to medical  
8 care especially for disadvantaged and disabled populations and  
9 those residing in rural areas; and  
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11           WHEREAS, the 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 guideline, and advance improvements in quality health care; and  
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16           WHEREAS, establishment and development of health  
17 information exchanges within the United States has become  
18 increasingly significant, reflecting the changing role that  
19 emerging information technology plays in the way government and  
20 businesses operate; and  
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22           WHEREAS, establishment and development of health  
23 information exchanges within the United States has become  
24 increasingly necessary in times of national and local disasters,  
25 such as Hurricane Katrina; and  
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27           WHEREAS, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009  
28 contains funding opportunities for states to improve  
29 infrastructure related to medical technology specifically for  
30 creating a health information exchange and promoting of the use  
31 of electronic medical records; and  
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1 WHEREAS, funding under this Act will support the growth and  
2 expansion of the use of health information technology through a  
3 public-private partnership between all interested health care  
4 stakeholders to build a statewide network for the people of  
5 Hawaii; and

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7 WHEREAS, this partnership will include the Legislature and  
8 the appropriate state agency responsible for designating an  
9 entity to be considered a "state designated entity" in order to  
10 qualify to receive funding under the federal act; and

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12 WHEREAS, stakeholders in the community are already  
13 mobilizing so that Hawaii can be one of the first states to  
14 apply for federal health information technology grant funding;  
15 now, therefore,

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17 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fifth  
18 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2009, the  
19 House of Representatives concurring, that the Legislature urges  
20 appropriate state departments, the health care community, and  
21 the technology community to work together to ensure that Hawaii  
22 is able to rapidly respond and qualify for grant monies offered  
23 in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 for health  
24 care technology; and

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26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hawaii State Senate and  
27 House of Representatives are requested to convene a task force  
28 to develop and implement a partnership plan that includes the  
29 Legislature, interested stakeholders, and the appropriate state  
30 agency responsible for designating an entity to be considered a  
31 "state designated entity" in order to qualify to receive funding  
32 under the federal Act; and

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34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that these efforts be undertaken  
35 with guidance from Hawaii's congressional delegation so as to be  
36 as effective as possible in securing these funds; and

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38 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
39 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Hawaii's  
40 congressional delegation, the Senate President, the Speaker of  
41 the House of Representatives, the state Director of Health, the  
42 state Director of Human Services, each health plan in the State  
43 that issues health insurance policies, all public and private  
44 hospitals operating in the State, the Hawaii Broadband Task

- 1 Force, the Hawaii Telehealth Collaborative, the Hawaii Health
- 2 Information Exchange, all Federally Qualified Health Centers,
- 3 and the Hawaii Medical Association.