

MAR 18 2009

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE LONG TERM CARE COMMISSION TO CONDUCT A STUDY OF
INCREASING MEDICAID REIMBURSEMENTS TO HOSPITALS FOR
PATIENTS WHO ARE WAITLISTED FOR LONG TERM CARE AND TO LONG
TERM CARE FACILITIES TO ACCEPT WAITLISTED PATIENTS.

1 WHEREAS, the Legislature adopted Senate Concurrent
2 Resolution No. 198 in 2007 to request the Healthcare Association
3 of Hawaii to study the long-term care waitlist problem, and
4 subsequently House Concurrent Resolution No. 53 in 2008 to
5 continue the study; and

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7 WHEREAS, these Concurrent Resolutions address the problem
8 of patients who have been treated in acute care hospitals and
9 whose conditions have improved so that they may be transferred
10 for long term care, but who remain in hospitals because the cost
11 of caring for their needs exceeds the reimbursement amounts; and

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13 WHEREAS, waitlisted patients represent a serious problem in
14 Hawaii because it results in a diminished number of acute care
15 beds that are available for those with serious illnesses or
16 injuries and high costs to hospitals; and

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18 WHEREAS, in response to the Concurrent Resolutions, the
19 Healthcare Association of Hawaii created the Waitlist Task
20 Force, which studied relevant issues and submitted a report to
21 the 2009 Legislature that included a recommendation to increase
22 Medicaid reimbursements to hospitals for patients who are
23 waitlisted for long term care, and also to long term care
24 facilities to accept these patients; and

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26 WHEREAS, H.B. No. 706 and S.B. No. 417 were introduced in
27 the 2009 Regular Session to implement the recommendations of the
28 Waitlist Task Force; and

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30 WHEREAS, long term care issues are now being considered
31 comprehensively by the Long Term Care Commission, which was



S.C.R. NO. 169

1 created pursuant to Act 224, Session Laws of Hawaii 2008, to
 2 study the financing of long term care so that the needed
 3 infrastructure would be created; now, therefore,
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5 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fifth
 6 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2009, the
 7 House of Representatives concurring, that the Legislature
 8 requests the Long Term Care Commission to consider increasing
 9 Medicaid reimbursements to hospitals for patients who are
 10 waitlisted for long term care and to long term care facilities
 11 to accept waitlisted patients; and
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13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Long Term Care Commission
 14 review the report by the Waitlist Task Force, along with H.B.
 15 No. 706 and S.B. No. 417, Regular Session of 2009, and the
 16 testimony submitted on those bills; and
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18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Long Term Care Commission
 19 submit a report to the Legislature of findings and
 20 recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to address
 21 Medicaid reimbursements for waitlisted patients no later than
 22 twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of
 23 2010; and
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25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 26 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, the
 27 Director of Health, the Director of Human Services, and the
 28 Chairperson of the Long Term Care Commission.
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OFFERED BY:

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