

FEB 02 2009

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# SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

MANDATING COVERAGE OF EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES FOR INFANTS  
AND CHILDREN FROM BIRTH TO AGE THREE.

1           WHEREAS, according to the United States Department of  
2 Health and Human Services, consistent access to a wide range of  
3 services is particularly important for children with special  
4 health care needs; and

5  
6           WHEREAS, children with special health care needs require  
7 access to a wide range of medical and support services to  
8 maintain their physical, mental, emotional, and developmental  
9 health; and

10  
11           WHEREAS, early intervention services can often prevent or  
12 ameliorate the effects of illnesses, conditions, injuries, and  
13 disabilities that would otherwise have a devastating impact on  
14 affected children and their families; and

15  
16           WHEREAS, according to The Arc of the United States,  
17 research and successful practical experience has established  
18 that early intervention services have a positive impact on  
19 quality of life and community participation for children with  
20 special health care needs and their families; and

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22           WHEREAS, early intervention services for children with  
23 special health care needs is a sound investment that yields  
24 positive returns, both developmentally and economically; and

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26           WHEREAS, according to the United States Department of  
27 Health and Human Service's National Survey of Children with  
28 Special Health Care Needs, one-third of families with health  
29 insurance coverage say that their coverage does not provide  
30 adequate, affordable access to the services required for their  
31 children with special health care needs; and



1           WHEREAS, section 23-51, Hawaii Revised Statutes, requires  
2 that "[b]efore any legislative measure that mandates health  
3 insurance coverage for specific health services, specific  
4 diseases, or certain providers of health care services as part  
5 of individual or group health insurance policies, can be  
6 considered, there shall be concurrent resolutions passed  
7 requesting the auditor to prepare and submit to the legislature  
8 a report that assesses both the social and financial effects of  
9 the proposed mandated coverage"; and

10  
11           WHEREAS, section 23-51, Hawaii Revised Statutes, further  
12 provides that "[t]he concurrent resolutions shall designate a  
13 specific legislative bill that:

- 14  
15           (1) Has been introduced in the legislature; and  
16  
17           (2) Includes, at minimum, information identifying the:  
18  
19                   (A) Specific health service, disease, or provider  
20                   that would be covered;  
21  
22                   (B) Extent of the coverage;  
23  
24                   (C) Target groups that would be covered;  
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26                   (D) Limits on utilization, if any; and  
27  
28                   (E) Standards of care.

29  
30 For purposes of this part, mandated health insurance coverage  
31 shall not include mandated optionals"; and

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33           WHEREAS, section 23-52, Hawaii Revised Statutes, further  
34 specifies the minimum information required for assessing the  
35 social and financial impact of the proposed health coverage  
36 mandate in the Auditor's report; and

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38           WHEREAS, S.B. No.       (2009) mandates that health insurers  
39 provide coverage for medically necessary early intervention  
40 services for infants and toddlers from birth to age three,  
41 effective July 1, 2009; now, therefore,

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43           BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fifth  
44 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2009, the



# S.C.R. NO. 17

1 House of Representatives concurring, that the Auditor is  
 2 requested to conduct an impact assessment report, pursuant to  
 3 sections 23-51 and 23-52, Hawaii Revised Statutes, of the social  
 4 and financial impacts of mandating health insurance coverage for  
 5 medically necessary early intervention services for infants and  
 6 toddlers from birth to age three, effective as of July 1, 2009  
 7 as provided in S.B. No. (2009); and

8  
 9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Auditor is requested to  
 10 submit findings and recommendations to the Legislature,  
 11 including any necessary implementing legislation, not later than  
 12 twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of  
 13 2010; and

14  
 15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
 16 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Auditor and to the  
 17 Insurance Commissioner, who, in turn, is requested to transmit  
 18 copies to each insurer in the State that issues health insurance  
 19 policies.

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OFFERED BY: Annanne Chun Oakland

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