
SENATE 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 where 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
32 created pursuant to Act 224, Session Laws of Hawaii 2008, to
33 study the financing of long-term care so that the needed
34 infrastructure would be created; now, therefore,

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2 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fifth
3 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2009,
4 that the Long Term Care Commission is requested to consider
5 increasing Medicaid reimbursements to hospitals for patients who
6 are waitlisted for long-term care and to long-term care
7 facilities to accept waitlisted patients; and

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9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Long Term Care Commission
10 review the report by the Waitlist Task Force, along with H.B.
11 No. 706 and S.B. No. 417, Regular Session of 2009, and the
12 testimony submitted on those measures; and

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14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Long Term Care Commission
15 submit a report to the Senate of findings and recommendations,
16 including any proposed legislation, to address Medicaid
17 reimbursements for waitlisted patients no later than twenty days
18 prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2010; and

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20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
21 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, the Director of
22 Health, the Director of Human Services, and the Chairperson of
23 the Long Term Care Commission.