HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU TO STUDY, ANALYZE, AND PROVIDE A RECOMMENDATION ON THE MOST COST EFFECTIVE HEALTH BENEFIT INSURANCE PLAN TO PROVIDE TO ALL GOVERNMENT WORKERS THAT ARE CURRENTLY COVERED BY THE EMPLOYER-UNION HEALTH BENEFITS TRUST FUND.

WHEREAS, State and county employees, retirees, and their dependents have been enrolled in a single health benefits delivery system, known as the Employer-Union Health Benefits Trust Fund ("EUTF"), for nearly a decade; and

WHEREAS, providing government workers with a quality health insurance plan at a cost effective price is imperative, especially while working in an uncertain financial economy; and

WHEREAS, health benefits are a significant component of the total compensation package for public employers, comprising a substantial part of public employer payroll costs; and

WHEREAS, the rising cost of health benefits under the EUTF have created financial hardships for some beneficiaries and their families; and

WHEREAS, a study, analysis, and comparison by the Legislative Reference Bureau of the previously enacted Hawaii Public Employees Health Fund ("Health Fund"), the currently enacted EUTF, and other available health plan alternatives for government workers would be beneficial in determining the long-term costs and benefits of health care for government workers; and

WHEREAS, an objective recommendation by the Legislative Reference Bureau is needed on whether the Health Fund or the EUTF is the most cost effective plan and if there is an alternative plan, such as a hybrid of the Health Fund and EUTF, that should be considered; now, therefore,

5

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2010, the Senate concurring, that the Legislative Reference Bureau is requested to study, compare, and analyze the cost effectiveness of the previously enacted Hawaii Public Employees Health Fund, the currently enacted Employer-Union Health Benefits Trust Fund, and a hybrid plan proposed by various employee unions in S.B. No. 2849, Regular Session of 2010; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Reference Bureau is requested to provide a recommendation on which plan, i.e., the Hawaii Public Employees Health Fund, Employer-Union Health Benefits Trust Fund, or the hybrid plan proposed by various employee unions in S.B. No. 2849, Regular Session of 2010, would be the most cost effective; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Reference Bureau is requested to report its findings and recommendations to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the 2011 Regular Session; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the Board of the Employer-Union Health Benefits Trust Fund, the Director of the Legislative Reference Bureau, and the Office of Collective Bargaining.

OFFERED BY

MAR 0 3 2010