
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

RELATING TO HEALTH SYSTEM TASK FORCE.

1 WHEREAS, improving the quality, safety, efficiency, and
2 cost of medical care is universally regarded as a primary goal
3 of healthcare reform in Hawaii; and
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5 WHEREAS, Hawaii's healthcare system is perceived to have
6 difficulty in attracting and retaining physicians to practice in
7 the State, particularly in rural areas; and
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9 WHEREAS, various factors have been identified over the
10 years as contributors to the perceived inability to attract and
11 keep physicians in practice, including the adequacy of
12 reimbursements for services provided; the cost of malpractice
13 insurance premiums, particularly for certain medical
14 specialties; and the need to practice medicine defensively; and
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16 WHEREAS, previous efforts at piecemeal reform of the
17 healthcare system have been largely unsuccessful in improving
18 the quality, safety, efficiency, and cost of medical care in
19 Hawaii; and
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21 WHEREAS, improving the healthcare system requires analysis
22 and evaluation of the system as a whole to identify and improve
23 those factors that contribute to identifiable weaknesses; and
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25 WHEREAS, it is time for a new approach to healthcare reform
26 in Hawaii which seeks to examine the core issues that contribute
27 to system weaknesses by enlisting a coalition of interested
28 parties to develop new approaches to reform; and
29

30 WHEREAS, the primary objective of this coalition would be
31 to bring stakeholders in Hawaii to a neutral forum to assist in
32 developing new policies and laws that strengthen the healthcare
33 system through a factually-based consensus-building process,
34 while emphasizing that healthcare system reform must strengthen



1 links between accountability and improvement in the quality of
2 patient care and safety; and
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4 WHEREAS, it is necessary to evaluate methods to reduce
5 medical errors and increase patient safety; seek solutions to
6 eliminate doctor shortages; address the role and impact of the
7 legal system in compensating victims injured because of medical
8 errors; and improve the quality, safety, efficiency, and cost of
9 Hawaii's healthcare system; and
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11 WHEREAS, this coalition has the long-term goal of
12 recommending proposed legislation; now, therefore,
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14 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
15 Twenty-Fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
16 of 2010, the Senate concurring, that the chairs of the Senate
17 and House Committees on Health, or their designees, are
18 requested to convene a task force to:
19

- 20 (1) Evaluate methods to improve the quality, safety,
21 efficiency, and cost of Hawaii's healthcare system;
22
- 23 (2) Reduce medical errors and increase patient safety;
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- 25 (3) Seek solutions to eliminate doctor shortages; and
26
- 27 (4) Address the role and impact of the legal system in
28 compensating victims injured because of medical
29 errors; and
30

31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to
32 include the following:
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- 34 (1) The President of the Senate, or the President's
35 designee;
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- 37 (2) The Speaker of the House of Representatives, or the
38 Speaker's designee;
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- 40 (3) The Insurance Commissioner, or the Insurance
41 Commissioner's designee;
42
- 43 (4) The Dean of the William S. Richardson School of Law,
44 or the Dean's designee;



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- 1
- 2 (5) The Dean of the John A. Burns School of Medicine, or
- 3 the Dean's designee;
- 4
- 5 (6) The President of the Healthcare Association of Hawaii,
- 6 or the President's designee;
- 7
- 8 (7) The Executive Director of the Hawaii Medical
- 9 Association or the Executive Director's designee;
- 10
- 11 (8) The President of the Hawaii Association for Justice,
- 12 or the President's designee;
- 13
- 14 (9) A member of the legal community, to be selected by the
- 15 Executive Director of the Hawaii State Bar
- 16 Association;
- 17
- 18 (10) A member of the consumer advocacy community, to be
- 19 selected by the Consumer Advocate;
- 20
- 21 (11) A member of the health care community, to be selected
- 22 by the Director of Health; and
- 23
- 24 (12) A representative of the medical malpractice insurance
- 25 community, to be selected by the Insurance
- 26 Commissioner; and
- 27

28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to
29 submit a report of any findings and recommendations to the
30 legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
31 the Regular Session of 2012; and

32
33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Health is
34 requested to provide administrative, professional, technical,
35 and clerical support to the task force; and

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37 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
38 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the President of the
39 Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the
40 Governor, the Attorney General, the Director of Health, the
41 Insurance Commissioner, the Consumer Advocate, the Dean of the
42 William S. Richardson School of Law, the Dean of the John A.
43 Burns School of Medicine, the Executive Director of the Hawaii
44 Medical Association, the President of the Healthcare Association



1 of Hawaii; the Executive Director of the Hawaii State Bar
2 Association; and the President of the Hawaii Association for
3 Justice.
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OFFERED BY:

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Tom Bunn

on 9.2

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