

MAR 03 2010

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE HAWAII STATE LEGISLATURE TO CONVENE A HAWAII
HEALTH CARE SUMMIT TO DEVELOP A STRATEGIC AND COMPREHENSIVE
PLAN FOR HEALTH CARE IN HAWAII.

1 WHEREAS, according to the State Scorecard published in 2007
2 by The Commonwealth Fund, Hawaii ranked number one among the
3 states in health system performance, is a leader in reforming
4 and improving its health system, and has one of the lowest
5 uninsured rates in the nation; and
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7 WHEREAS, life expectancy at birth in Hawaii is among the
8 longest in the nation. In 2000, the most recent year for which
9 state estimates are available, a person born in Hawaii had a
10 life expectancy of eighty years, three years longer than the
11 national average; and
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13 WHEREAS, survey data collected by the federal government
14 that compare private employer-sponsored health insurance
15 premiums in Hawaii with those for the country as a whole
16 reported that, as of 2003, Hawaii's premium for single coverage
17 averaged thirteen per cent below the average premium charged
18 across the nation as a whole, and family coverage averaged
19 nearly fifteen per cent below the national average. Studies
20 conducted by private groups since 2003 have found that Hawaii
21 premiums remain low compared to the national average; and
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23 WHEREAS, Hawaii has the third lowest Medicare cost per
24 capita in the nation, spending a mere \$5,708 per Medicare
25 enrollee compared to the District of Columbia's high expenditure
26 of \$9,154 per enrollee; and
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28 WHEREAS, Hawaii has a robust network of federally qualified
29 community health centers that provides quality health care to
30 more than one hundred thousand uninsured persons; and
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1 WHEREAS, however, Hawaii hospitals have lost \$150,000,000
2 in the last year, primarily due to uncompensated care and low
3 Medicare and Medicaid reimbursement rates that do not cover the
4 costs of health care; and

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6 WHEREAS, hospitals and physicians have reported low
7 reimbursements from insurers; and

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9 WHEREAS, private insurers are under severe pressure to
10 compensate hospitals and physicians through reimbursements to
11 cover costs shifted from government health programs such as
12 Medicare and Medicaid; and

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14 WHEREAS, Hawaii has a shortage of beds in its long-term
15 care facilities, resulting in a diminished quality of life for
16 patients obliged to remain in an acute care hospital while
17 waiting to be placed in a long-term care facility, a general
18 unavailability of acute care beds in hospitals that are needed
19 for acute illness or injury but are occupied by persons awaiting
20 long-term care facility placement, and unnecessary stays in
21 high-cost acute care hospitals, the added cost of which is often
22 absorbed by the acute care hospitals; and

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24 WHEREAS, changes in demographics, the delivery of health
25 care services, low physician salaries, and the escalating costs
26 of education have resulted in severe shortages of physicians,
27 medical specialists, and other health care professionals,
28 particularly in rural areas of the State; and

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30 WHEREAS, the costs of emergency and trauma care are
31 escalating and fewer doctors are willing to serve on-call; and

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33 WHEREAS, natural disasters, such as Hurricane Katrina,
34 illustrate the need for improving disaster preparedness,
35 especially in health care; and

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37 WHEREAS, the complexity of health care reform is
38 demonstrated by the impact that each part of the health care
39 system has on other parts of the health care system; and

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41 WHEREAS, therefore, a strategic and comprehensive plan for
42 health care in Hawaii is necessary to develop an effective
43 solution for health care today and in the future; now,
44 therefore,



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BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2010, the House of Representatives concurring, that the Hawaii State Legislature is requested to convene a Hawaii Health Care Summit to develop a strategic and comprehensive plan for health care in Hawaii; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hawaii Health Care Summit should be a collaborative effort that includes all stakeholders, including representatives from all medical and health care communities, health insurance providers, community health centers, hospitals, emergency and trauma care providers, long-term health care providers, Medicare, Medicaid, the John A. Burns School of Medicine, local business interests, and state agencies; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hawaii Health Care Summit should consist of twenty-six members as follows:

- (1) Six members appointed by the Senate President;
- (2) Six members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;
- (3) Three members appointed by the Governor;
- (4) The Chair of the Senate Standing Committee on Health;
- (5) The Chair of the House Standing Committee on Health;
- (6) The Auditor, or the Auditor's designee;
- (7) The Director of Health, or the Director's designee;
- (8) The Director of Human Services, or the Director's designee;
- (9) The Dean of the University of Hawaii John A. Burns School of Medicine, or the Dean's designee;
- (10) The Chief Executive Officer of the Hawaii Primary Care Association, or the Chief Executive Officer's designee;



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- (11) The Chief Executive Officer of the Healthcare Association of Hawaii, or the Chief Executive Officer's designee;
- (12) The Chief Executive Officer of the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation, or the Chief Executive Officer's designee; and
- (13) Two representatives of different health insurance providers offering coverage in Hawaii, one appointed by the Senate President and one appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that members of the Hawaii Health Care Summit should select the chairperson of the Summit and should be reimbursed for expenses, including travel expenses, necessary for the performance of their duties; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hawaii Health Care Summit's strategic and comprehensive plan is requested to include at a minimum:

- (1) A plan for an improved emergency and trauma system;
- (2) A plan for fair reimbursements from government and private payers to health care providers;
- (3) A plan for strengthening the financial performance of hospitals and long-term care facilities;
- (4) A workforce development plan for physicians, particularly addressing rural communities and medical specialties, that includes the establishment of a process for the comprehensive assessment and projection of workforce needs;
- (5) A workforce development plan for other health care professionals; and
- (6) A health information technology plan that is consistent with federal efforts to accelerate the use of electronic health records; and



1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Hawaii Health Care Summit is
2 requested to submit a report on its recommendations, including
3 any implementing legislation, to the Legislature and the Auditor
4 no later than twenty days before the convening of the Regular
5 Session of 2011; and

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7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that after receipt of the Hawaii
8 Health Care Summit's report, the Office of the Auditor is
9 requested to:

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11 (1) Prepare the Hawaii Health Care Summit plan,
12 incorporating all or a portion of the recommendations
13 reported by the Hawaii Health Care Summit;

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15 (2) Seek input from all state departments and solicit
16 public views and concerns in preparation of the plan;

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18 (3) Submit the Hawaii Health Care Summit plan to the
19 Legislature no later than twenty days before the
20 convening of the Regular Session of 2012; and

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22 (4) Update the plan every ten years with a report to the
23 Legislature on each update to be submitted no later
24 than twenty day prior to the Regular Session of the
25 year immediately following each ten-year period; and

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27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hawaii Health Care Summit
28 shall cease to operate after the adjournment sine die of the
29 2011 Regular Session of the Legislature; and

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31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
32 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, the
33 President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of
34 Representatives, the Chair of the Senate Standing Committee on
35 Health, the Chair of the House Standing Committee on Health, the
36 Auditor, the Director of Health, the Director of Human Services,
37 the Dean of the University of Hawaii John A. Burns School of
38 Medicine, the Chief Executive Officer of the Hawaii Health
39 Systems Corporation, the Chief Executive Officer of the Hawaii
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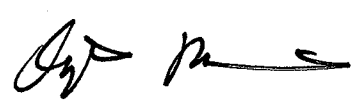
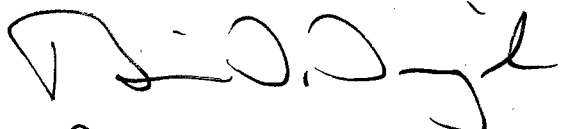


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1 Primary Care Association, and the Chief Executive Officer of the
2 Healthcare Association of Hawaii.

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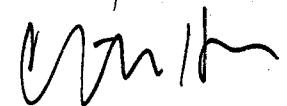
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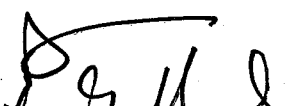


 Donna Mercedes King
 Norman Sakamoto
George de Bruin

Arvid Y. Lee
 Clayton K. Nishihara
 Greg L. Hoon
 Will Eyo
 Stephen J.
Russell Kohler


 Elizabeth Chun Adkins

Carol Fukushima




 Mike Galt
 Michelle Kiani
