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## HOUSE RESOLUTION

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REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO CONVENE A TASK FORCE ON  
ELECTRONIC HEALTH RECORDS TO DEVELOP A STRATEGY FOR  
STANDARDIZING INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY PRACTICES AMONG  
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PROVIDERS.

1           WHEREAS, the widespread use of electronic health records  
2 systems would contribute to greater efficiency and cost savings  
3 in the practice of medicine in Hawaii; and  
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5           WHEREAS, in addition to more effective storage and  
6 transmission of medical records and patient data, interoperable  
7 electronic health record systems would contribute to greater  
8 efficiency and savings in medical billing and claims, both for  
9 private and government payors; and  
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11           WHEREAS, the medical records systems and claims used by  
12 agencies within the Department of Health are incompatible with  
13 the electronic data systems of many of their behavioral health  
14 providers; and  
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16           WHEREAS, data incompatibilities often lead to providers  
17 having to enter their electronic patient notes twice: once into  
18 systems that are compatible with federal claims systems and  
19 again into the State's outdated system; and  
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21           WHEREAS, many of the data compatibility problems  
22 experienced by behavioral health care providers would be  
23 remedied if the Department of Health, were to upgrade to an  
24 electronic system that meets the federal health data system  
25 standards for registration and billing that are established by  
26 the Health Information Privacy and Portability Act of 1996,  
27 popularly known as "HIPAA"; and  
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29           WHEREAS, President Obama's administration has established  
30 electronic medical records development as a cornerstone of  
31 national health care reform, and made federal economic recovery  
32 and stimulus funds available for projects that create health



1 care savings by implementing electronic medical data systems;  
2 now, therefore,  
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4 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
5 Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
6 of 2010, that the Department of Health is requested to convene a  
7 task force on electronic health records to develop a strategy  
8 for standardizing information technology practices among  
9 behavioral health providers and the Department of Health,  
10 including medical claims forms and medical records, to make the  
11 provision of behavioral health care more efficient; and  
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13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature requests that  
14 the task force include:  
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- 16 (1) The Director of Health or the Director's designee, who  
17 is requested to serve as its chair;  
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- 19 (2) Representatives of each of the behavioral health  
20 agencies within the Department of Health, to be  
21 designated by the Director; and  
22
- 23 (3) Members of the behavioral health care provider  
24 community, who shall be requested to serve by the  
25 Director of Health; and  
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27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to  
28 submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the  
29 Legislature not later than twenty days prior to the convening of  
30 the Regular Session of 2011; and  
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32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
33 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Health, who in  
34 turn, is requested to distribute copies of this resolution to  
35 the heads of the behavioral health agencies within the  
36 Department of Health, and to members of the behavioral health  
37 provider community.  
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39  
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*ALANSON S. SAKUMA III*

OFFERED BY:

*Michael Mungro*

*[Signature]*

*Amily Evans*  
*[Signature]*

*Mark Takashima*

*[Signature]*



H.R. NO. 70

Ray Hanstam

~~Signature~~

John M. Moore

Signature

Signature

Rich Outanilla

Signature

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