
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

6
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

12
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

22
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

27
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



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

8
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

13
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

23
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

29
30 WHEREAS, the costs of emergency and trauma care are
31 escalating and fewer doctors are willing to serve on-call; and

32
33 WHEREAS, natural disasters, such as Hurricane Katrina,
34 illustrate the need for improving disaster preparedness,
35 especially in health care; and

36
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

40
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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2 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fifth
3 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2010, the
4 House of Representatives concurring, that the Hawaii State
5 Legislature is requested to convene a Hawaii Health Care Summit
6 to develop a strategic and comprehensive plan for health care in
7 Hawaii; and

8
9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hawaii Health Care Summit
10 should be a collaborative effort that includes all stakeholders,
11 including representatives from all medical and health care
12 communities, health insurance providers, community health
13 centers, hospitals, emergency and trauma care providers,
14 long-term health care providers, Medicare, Medicaid, the John A.
15 Burns School of Medicine, local business interests, and state
16 agencies; and

17
18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hawaii Health Care Summit
19 should consist of twenty-six members as follows:

- 20
21 (1) Six members appointed by the Senate President;
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23 (2) Six members appointed by the Speaker of the House of
24 Representatives;
25
26 (3) Three members appointed by the Governor;
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28 (4) The Chair of the Senate Standing Committee on Health;
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30 (5) The Chair of the House Standing Committee on Health;
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32 (6) The Auditor, or the Auditor's designee;
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34 (7) The Director of Health, or the Director's designee;
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36 (8) The Director of Human Services, or the Director's
37 designee;
38
39 (9) The Dean of the University of Hawaii John A. Burns
40 School of Medicine, or the Dean's designee;
41
42 (10) The Chief Executive Officer of the Hawaii Primary Care
43 Association, or the Chief Executive Officer's
44 designee;



- 1
- 2 (11) The Chief Executive Officer of the Healthcare
- 3 Association of Hawaii, or the Chief Executive
- 4 Officer's designee;
- 5
- 6 (12) The Chief Executive Officer of the Hawaii Health
- 7 Systems Corporation, or the Chief Executive Officer's
- 8 designee;
- 9
- 10 (13) The President of the Hawaii Association of Health
- 11 Plans or the President's designee;
- 12
- 13 (14) One representative from Kaiser Permanente;
- 14
- 15 (15) Two members of the Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii
- 16 representing both small and large businesses in
- 17 Hawaii;
- 18
- 19 (16) One representative from the Hawaii Medical
- 20 Association;
- 21
- 22 (17) One representative from the Hawaii Nursing
- 23 Association;
- 24
- 25 (18) One representative of the Hawaii Long Term Care
- 26 Association;
- 27
- 28 (19) One representative of the Hawaii State Rural Health
- 29 Association; and
- 30
- 31 (20) Two representatives of different health insurance
- 32 providers, other than Kaiser Permanente, offering
- 33 coverage in Hawaii, one appointed by the Senate
- 34 President and one appointed by the Speaker of the
- 35 House of Representatives; and
- 36

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

41
42 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hawaii Health Care Summit's
43 strategic and comprehensive plan is requested to include at a
44 minimum:



- 1
- 2 (1) A plan for an improved emergency and trauma system;
- 3
- 4 (2) A plan for fair reimbursements from government and
- 5 private payers to health care providers;
- 6
- 7 (3) A plan for strengthening the financial performance of
- 8 hospitals and long-term care facilities;
- 9
- 10 (4) A workforce development plan for physicians,
- 11 particularly addressing rural communities and medical
- 12 specialties, that includes the establishment of a
- 13 process for the comprehensive assessment and
- 14 projection of workforce needs;
- 15
- 16 (5) A workforce development plan for other health care
- 17 professionals; and
- 18
- 19 (6) A health information technology plan that is
- 20 consistent with federal efforts to accelerate the use
- 21 of electronic health records; and
- 22

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Hawaii Health Care Summit is
24 requested to submit a report on its recommendations, including
25 any implementing legislation, to the Legislature and the Auditor
26 no later than twenty days before the convening of the Regular
27 Session of 2011; and

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29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that after receipt of the Hawaii
30 Health Care Summit's report, the Office of the Auditor is
31 requested to:

- 32
- 33 (1) Prepare the Hawaii Health Care Summit plan,
- 34 incorporating all or a portion of the recommendations
- 35 reported by the Hawaii Health Care Summit;
- 36
- 37 (2) Seek input from all state departments and solicit
- 38 public views and concerns in preparation of the plan;
- 39
- 40 (3) Submit the Hawaii Health Care Summit plan to the
- 41 Legislature no later than twenty days before the
- 42 convening of the Regular Session of 2012; and
- 43



1 (4) Update the plan every ten years with a report to the
2 Legislature on each update to be submitted no later
3 than twenty days prior to the Regular Session of the
4 year immediately following each ten-year period; and
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6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hawaii Health Care Summit
7 shall cease to operate after the adjournment sine die of the
8 2011 Regular Session of the Legislature; and
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10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
11 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, the
12 President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of
13 Representatives, the Chair of the Senate Standing Committee on
14 Health, the Chair of the House Standing Committee on Health, the
15 Auditor, the Director of Health, the Director of Human Services,
16 the Dean of the University of Hawaii John A. Burns School of
17 Medicine, the Chief Executive Officer of the Hawaii Health
18 Systems Corporation, the Chief Executive Officer of the
19 Healthcare Association of Hawaii, the President of the Hawaii
20 Association of Health Plans, the Chief Executive Officer of
21 Kaiser Permanente Hawaii, the President of the Chamber of
22 Commerce of Hawaii, the Executive Director of the Hawaii Medical
23 Association, the Hawaii Nursing Association, the Long Term Care
24 Association, the Hawaii State Rural Health Association, and the
25 Hawaii Primary Care Association.

