
HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE AUDITOR TO REVIEW STATE EXECUTIVE BRANCH
PRACTICES IN DETERMINING WHETHER TO RELEASE FUNDS
APPROPRIATED BY THE LEGISLATURE.

1 WHEREAS, Molokai General Hospital, founded in 1962, and
2 Molokai Community Health Center, which opened in 2004, both
3 serve the island's seven thousand residents; and
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5 WHEREAS, in January 2011, the Molokai Community Health
6 Center stopped construction on its facility at a six-acre site
7 in Kaunakakai because the State failed to release \$1,000,000
8 needed to continue the project; and
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10 WHEREAS, Molokai Community Health Center, which now
11 operates out of three separate sites, has invested \$1,400,000 to
12 expand its services by building a larger facility in Kaunakakai;
13 and
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15 WHEREAS, according to the Department of Health, the
16 previous state administration delayed releasing the funds that
17 the Legislature appropriated in 2009 for the Molokai Community
18 Health Center because of budget constraints; and
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20 WHEREAS, however, some believe that resistance by Molokai
21 General Hospital, part of The Queen's Health Systems, to the
22 expansion of Molokai Community Health Center may have held up
23 release of those funds; and
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25 WHEREAS, there are concerns that Molokai General Hospital
26 and Molokai Community Health Center will duplicate health
27 services and compete for patients and funds; and
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29 WHEREAS, the president of Molokai General Hospital was a
30 member of the previous state administration's Department of
31 Health Advisory Committee while the Molokai Community Health
32 Center fought for the money to be released; and
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1 WHEREAS, although the current state administration has
 2 indicated that it will release the funds needed to complete the
 3 expansion of Molokai Community Health Center, greater
 4 transparency in the decision to release or withhold appropriated
 5 funds would resolve uncertainties and increase public
 6 confidence; now, therefore,
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8 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
 9 Twenty-sixth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
 10 of 2011, that the Auditor is requested to review the policies
 11 and procedures of the state executive branch in determining
 12 whether to release funds appropriated by the Legislature; and
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14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Auditor is requested to
 15 focus its review on the initial decision of the previous state
 16 administration to withhold funds appropriated in 2009 for the
 17 expansion of the Molokai Community Health Center; and
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19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Auditor is requested to
 20 submit its findings and recommendations to the Legislature no
 21 later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular
 22 Session of 2012; and
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24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 25 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, the Director of
 26 Health, the Auditor, the Executive Director of Molokai Community
 27 Health Center, and the President of Molokai General Hospital.
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OFFERED BY: *Melie Aunak*

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