

FEB 02 2011

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE AUDITOR TO ASSESS THE SOCIAL AND FINANCIAL
EFFECTS OF REQUIRING HEALTH INSURERS TO PROVIDE COVERAGE
FOR CERTAIN SMOKING CESSATION METHODS.

1 WHEREAS, according to the American Cancer Society, almost
2 six hundred individuals died in Hawaii of lung cancer in 2010;
3 and
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5 WHEREAS, according to the American Cancer Society, over
6 seven hundred fifty new cases of lung cancer were reported in
7 Hawaii in 2010; and
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9 WHEREAS, lung cancer accounts for more deaths in both men
10 and women than any other single type of cancer; and
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12 WHEREAS, cigarette smoking is by far the greatest risk
13 factor for lung cancer and its risks increase with quantity and
14 duration of cigarette smoking; and
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16 WHEREAS, quitting smoking greatly reduces the risk factor
17 for lung cancer, even for long-time smokers; and
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19 WHEREAS, section 23-51, Hawaii Revised Statutes, requires
20 that "[b]efore any legislative measure that mandates health
21 insurance coverage for specific health services, specific
22 diseases, or certain providers of health care services as part
23 of individual or group health insurance policies, can be
24 considered, there shall be concurrent resolutions passed
25 requesting the auditor to prepare and submit to the legislature
26 a report that assesses both the social and financial effects of
27 the proposed mandated coverage"; and
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29 WHEREAS, section 23-51, Hawaii Revised Statutes, further
30 provides that "[t]he concurrent resolutions shall designate a
31 specific legislative bill that:
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- 1 (1) Has been introduced in the legislature; and
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- 3 (2) Includes, at minimum, information identifying the:
- 4
- 5 (A) Specific health service, disease, or provider
- 6 that would be covered;
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- 8 (B) Extent of the coverage;
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- 10 (C) Target groups that would be covered;
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- 12 (D) Limits on utilization, if any; and
- 13
- 14 (E) Standards of care.
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16 For purposes of this part, mandated health insurance coverage
17 shall not include mandated optionals"; and

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19 WHEREAS, section 23-52, Hawaii Revised Statutes, further
20 specifies the minimum information required for assessing the
21 social and financial impact of the proposed health coverage
22 mandate in the Auditor's report; and

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24 WHEREAS, Senate Bill No. (2011), mandates insurance
25 coverage for certain smoking cessation methods recommended by
26 the United States Preventative Services Task Force, specifically
27 telephone and individual counseling and intervention sessions;
28 prescription coverage for nicotine replacement products and
29 tobacco cessation medications approved by the United States Food
30 and Drug Administration; and counseling and medication coverage
31 for smoking cessation attempts; now, therefore,

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33 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-sixth
34 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2011, the
35 House of Representatives concurring, that the Auditor is
36 requested to conduct an impact assessment report, pursuant to
37 sections 23-51 and 23-52, Hawaii Revised Statutes, of the social
38 and financial impacts of mandating insurance coverage for
39 telephone and individual counseling and intervention sessions,
40 prescription coverage for nicotine replacement products and
41 tobacco cessation medications, and counseling and medication
42 coverage for smoking cessation attempts, effective as of July 1,
43 2011, as provided in Senate Bill No. (2011); and

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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Auditor is requested to
2 submit findings and recommendations to the Legislature,
3 including any necessary implementing legislation, no later than
4 twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of
5 2012; and

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7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
8 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Auditor and to the
9 Insurance Commissioner, who, in turn, are requested to transmit
10 copies to each insurer in the State that issues health insurance
11 policies.

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OFFERED BY: Rosalyn H. Baker
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