

MAR 03 2011

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# SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE AUDITOR TO ASSESS THE SOCIAL AND FINANCIAL  
EFFECTS OF REQUIRING HEALTH INSURERS TO PROVIDE COVERAGE  
FOR AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS.

1           WHEREAS, "autism spectrum disorders" means any of the  
2 pervasive developmental disorders as defined by the most recent  
3 edition of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental  
4 Disorders, including autistic disorder, Asperger's disorder,  
5 pervasive developmental disorder not otherwise specified, Rett's  
6 disorder, and childhood disintegrative disorder; and  
7

8           WHEREAS, autism is the fastest growing developmental  
9 disorder in the United States and directly affects one in one  
10 hundred ten children including one in seventy boys and their  
11 families; and  
12

13           WHEREAS, more children are diagnosed with autism each year  
14 than with AIDS, diabetes, and cancer combined; and  
15

16           WHEREAS, however, approximately seventy-five to eighty-six  
17 per cent of children who receive early intervention services  
18 between the ages of two and seven will develop some form of  
19 functional communication by age nine; and  
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21           WHEREAS, section 23-51, Hawaii Revised Statutes, requires  
22 that "[b]efore any legislative measure that mandates health  
23 insurance coverage for specific health services, specific  
24 diseases, or certain providers of health care services as part  
25 of individual or group health insurance policies, can be  
26 considered, there shall be concurrent resolutions passed  
27 requesting the auditor to prepare and submit to the legislature  
28 a report that assesses both the social and financial effects of  
29 the proposed mandated coverage"; and  
30



1 WHEREAS, section 23-51 further provides that "[t]he  
2 concurrent resolutions shall designate a specific legislative  
3 bill that:

- 4
- 5 (1) Has been introduced in the legislature; and
- 6
- 7 (2) Includes, at a minimum, information identifying the:
- 8
- 9 (A) Specific health service, disease, or provider  
10 that would be covered;
- 11
- 12 (B) Extent of the coverage;
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- 14 (C) Target groups that would be covered;
- 15
- 16 (D) Limits on utilization, if any; and
- 17
- 18 (E) Standards of care.
- 19

20 For purposes of this part, mandated health insurance coverage  
21 shall not include mandated optionals"; and

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

27

28 WHEREAS, S.B. No. (2011) mandates coverage of autism  
29 spectrum disorders for all policies and contracts, hospital and  
30 medical service plan contracts, medical service corporation  
31 contracts, and health maintenance organization plans and  
32 contracts issued after December 31, 2011; and

33

34 WHEREAS, the Legislature believes that mandatory health  
35 insurance coverage for autism spectrum disorders, as provided in  
36 S.B. No. (2011), will substantially reduce the impact of  
37 autism spectrum disorders and assist in the maintenance of good  
38 health for the people of this State; now, therefore,

39

40 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-sixth  
41 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2011, the  
42 House of Representatives concurring, that the Auditor is  
43 requested to conduct an impact assessment report, pursuant to  
44 sections 23-51 and 23-52, Hawaii Revised Statutes, of the social



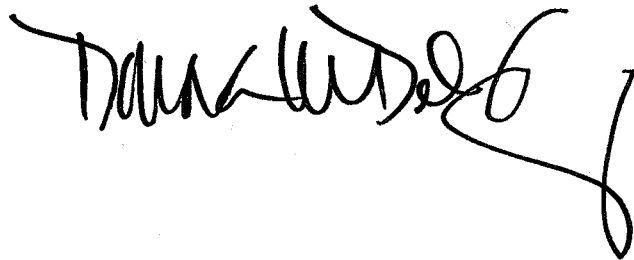
# S.C.R. NO. 51

1 and financial impacts of mandating coverage of autism spectrum  
 2 disorders for all policies and contracts, hospital and medical  
 3 service plan contracts, medical service corporation contracts,  
 4 and health maintenance organization plans and contracts issued  
 5 after December 31, 2011, as provided in S.B. No. (2011); and  
 6

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Auditor is requested to  
 8 submit findings and recommendations to the Legislature,  
 9 including any proposed implementing legislation, twenty days  
 10 prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2012; and  
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12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
 13 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Auditor and to the  
 14 Insurance Commissioner, who in turn is requested to transmit  
 15 copies to each insurer in the State that issues health insurance  
 16 policies.  
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 18  
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OFFERED BY:



Will Engw

Clarene Reich

Randy de Bell

Matt

Erzanne Chun Calhoun

John

