

MAR 08 2011

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## SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE AUDITOR TO CONDUCT AN IMPACT ASSESSMENT OF  
PROPOSED MANDATORY MENTAL HEALTH TREATMENT COVERAGE FOR  
CRISIS SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND ALCOHOL TREATMENT.

1           WHEREAS, there currently exists in this State a large  
2 population of people who abuse various substances or alcohol;  
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5           WHEREAS, many of the patients suffering from the substance  
6 abuse or alcohol abuse do not have insurance coverage that would  
7 enable them to receive adequate treatment; and  
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9           WHEREAS, Senate Bill No. 731, S.D. 1, has been introduced  
10 in the Legislature during the Regular Session of 2011, and  
11 proposes to require health insurance coverage for crisis  
12 substance abuse and alcohol treatment, including individual and  
13 group counseling, to extend for a period of thirty to sixty days  
14 for patients that have or are known to have substance abuse  
15 problems; and  
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17           WHEREAS, section 23-51, Hawaii Revised Statutes, requires  
18 that before any legislative measure mandating health insurance  
19 coverage for specific health services can be considered, there  
20 shall be concurrent resolutions passed to request the Auditor to  
21 prepare and submit a report to the Legislature that assesses the  
22 social and financial effects of the proposed mandated coverage;  
23 now, therefore,  
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25           BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-sixth  
26 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2011,  
27 that the Auditor is requested to conduct an impact assessment in  
28 accordance with sections 23-51 and 23-52, Hawaii Revised  
29 Statutes, on the proposed mandatory health insurance coverage  
30 for crisis substance abuse and alcohol treatment; and  
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32           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Auditor is requested to  
33 submit its findings and recommendations, including proposed  
34 legislation to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior  
35 to the convening of the Regular Session of 2012; and



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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the President of the Senate, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Auditor, and to the Insurance Commissioner who, in turn is requested to transmit copies to each insurer in the State that issues health insurance policies.

OFFERED BY:

John H.

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Will Syverson

