
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE PROVISION OF SECURITY AT THE HAWAII STATE
HOSPITAL.

1 WHEREAS, the Hawaii State Hospital has suffered budget cuts
2 and reductions in security positions, leaving the hospital
3 vulnerable to escapes and security risks; and
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5 WHEREAS, the high occupancy rate at the hospital, coupled
6 with the budget cuts and security reductions, has compromised
7 and jeopardized the safety of workers and patients at the
8 facility, as well as the surrounding neighborhood and community
9 at-large; and
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11 WHEREAS, the patients at the Hawaii State Hospital,
12 including forensic patients committed to institutionalization by
13 the courts, are considered to be in need of confinement; and
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15 WHEREAS, on average, six escapes per year and numerous
16 assaults upon staff occur at the Hawaii State Hospital; and
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18 WHEREAS, on December 3, 2009, a forensic patient who was
19 committed to the hospital in 2002 after allegedly kidnapping and
20 sexually assaulting a child, escaped, further illustrating the
21 current security situation at the hospital; and
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23 WHEREAS, over a year later, this individual has not been
24 re-captured; and
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26 WHEREAS, there is a need to clarify that the duties of the
27 Department of Public Safety include security at the Hawaii State
28 Hospital; now, therefore,
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30 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-sixth
31 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2011, the
32 House of Representatives concurring, that beginning September 1,
33 2011, security for the Hawaii State Hospital, which is a secure



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1 psychiatric rehabilitation facility, is requested to be provided
 2 by the Department of Public Safety in accordance with section
 3 26-14.6, Hawaii Revised Statutes; and

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 5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Health is
 6 requested to advise the Department of Public Safety as to the
 7 appropriate level of security that must be maintained at the
 8 Hawaii State Hospital; and

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 10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Director of Health, in
 11 collaboration with the Director of Public Safety, is requested
 12 to submit a report to the Legislature no later than twenty days
 13 prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2012 detailing
 14 the plan, strategies, and timetable for ensuring the provision
 15 of appropriate levels of long-term security at the Hawaii State
 16 Hospital, along with the short- and long-term strategies and
 17 plans to address the State's increasing and aging forensic
 18 population at the Hawaii State Hospital, including facility
 19 needs, capacity issues, and other off-site options; and

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 21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 22 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Department of Health
 23 and the Department of Public Safety.

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OFFERED BY: _____

Jill
Will Low
Michelle Sidani
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