

MAR 16 2011

S.R. NO. 67

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## SENATE RESOLUTION

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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,  
32 that beginning September 1, 2011, security for the Hawaii State  
33 Hospital, which is a secure psychiatric rehabilitation facility,  
34 is requested to be provided by the Department of Public Safety  
35 in accordance with section 26-14.6, Hawaii Revised Statutes; and  
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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Health is  
2 requested to advise the Department of Public Safety as to the  
3 appropriate level of security that must be maintained at the  
4 Hawaii State Hospital; and  
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6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Director of Health, in  
7 collaboration with the Director of Public Safety, is requested  
8 to submit a report to the Legislature no later than twenty days  
9 prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2012 detailing  
10 the plan, strategies, and timetable for ensuring the provision  
11 of appropriate levels of long-term security at the Hawaii State  
12 Hospital, along with the short- and long-term strategies and  
13 plans to address the State's increasing and aging forensic  
14 population at the Hawaii State Hospital, including facility  
15 needs, capacity issues, and other off-site options; and  
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17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
18 Resolution be transmitted to the Department of Health and the  
19 Department of Public Safety.  
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OFFERED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

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