
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE CREATION OF A DIABETES PREVENTION TASK FORCE TO
STUDY PREVENTION STRATEGIES, TRACK POLICY CHANGES AND
REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE WITH RECOMMENDED ACTIONS HALTING
THE DIABETES EPIDEMIC IN HAWAII.

1 WHEREAS, diabetes is one of the biggest public health
2 challenges facing Americans; and
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4 WHEREAS, according to the American Diabetes Association,
5 25.8 million children and adults in the United States, or 8.3
6 per cent of the population, have diabetes; and
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8 WHEREAS, the 2010 Hawaii Diabetes Plan states that more
9 than 110,000 persons in Hawaii have diabetes and that
10 approximately 39,000 of said persons do not yet know of their
11 illness; and
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13 WHEREAS, population studies have found that amongst persons
14 who have been diagnosed with diabetes, a variety of risk factors
15 compound to make the development of cardiovascular disease two
16 to four times more likely, with heart disease and stroke causing
17 65 percent of deaths, ultimately propelling diabetes to be
18 deemed the seventh leading cause of death in Hawaii; and
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20 WHEREAS, diabetes is the leading cause of an array of
21 emotionally and fiscally disconcerting health problems and the
22 origin of annual change in the number of persons with kidney
23 disease, eye disease and amputations which have in turn resulted
24 in: 40,000 new cases of kidney failure, 12,000-24,000 new cases
25 of blindness, and 82,000 non-traumatic limb amputations; and
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27 WHEREAS, Hawaii currently has approximately 2900 residents
28 needing regular dialysis treatments and an additional 156,000
29 residents with chronic kidney disease (CKD), which leads
30 eventually to the need for dialysis treatments or kidney
31 transplants; and
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1 WHEREAS, the tragic closures of multiple local hospitals,
2 including Liliha's HMC East, has left a significant gap in the
3 medical care services, including dialysis treatments, available
4 to people in the state of Hawaii; and
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6 WHEREAS, patients need dialysis centers in different
7 geographic locales throughout the state in order to maintain
8 normal lifestyles while having access to services; and
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10 WHEREAS, there currently exists within the Department of
11 Health the Diabetes Prevention and Control Program, which
12 includes the Hawaii Diabetes Coalition and the Hawaii Diabetes
13 Task Force; and
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15 WHEREAS, the existing Hawaii Diabetes Task Force is
16 designed to meet on a biennial basis, with the sole intended
17 purpose of reviewing, and revising as needed the Hawaii State
18 Practice Recommendations for healthcare professionals that can
19 assist with the licensing of new dialysis and diabetes
20 prevention centers in Hawaii; and
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22 WHEREAS, prevention measures that inform and educate the
23 public about the risks associated with diabetes provided by this
24 task force are needed to implement the appropriate application
25 of evidence-based strategies for lifestyle behavior modification
26 that mitigate the high costs to the nation's health care system;
27 and
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29 WHEREAS, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services is
30 the national organization that oversees the licensing and
31 certification of new facilities for inclusion in the Medicare
32 program; and
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34 WHEREAS, the current licensure and certification process
35 outlined by Medicare and Medicaid Services is one that is
36 arduous and hinders new dialysis clinics and diabetes prevention
37 centers from opening; and
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39 WHEREAS, Hawaii dialysis patients require a streamlined
40 certification process that will allow more dialysis and diabetes
41 prevention centers to open and deal with the current epidemic
42 effecting every segment of our state's population; now,
43 therefore,
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BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-sixth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2012, the Senate concurring, that the Hawaii Diabetes Task Force is created within the Department of Health, and shall exist as a sixteen member task force, comprised of the following members:

- (1) A representative appointed by the governor;
- (2) The director of health or the director's designee;
- (3) The director of human services or the director's designee;
- (4) The superintendent of education or the superintendent's designee;
- (5) The chairperson of the board of education or the chairperson's designee;
- (6) The attorney general or the attorney general's designee;
- (7) The director of taxation or the director's designee;
- (8) The director of finance or the director's designee;
- (9) The director of commerce and consumer affairs or the director's designee;
- (10) A representative from the University of Hawaii department of public health sciences;
- (11) A representative from the University of Hawaii John A. Burns school of medicine;
- (12) A representative from the American Heart Association;
- (13) A representative from the American Cancer Association;
- (14) A representative from the American Diabetes Association;
- (15) The speaker of the house of representatives or the speaker's designee; and
- (16) The senate president or the president's designee; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall develop and recommend legislation, assemble accurate research of the best practices implemented by other state and county organizational policy agendas related to diabetes prevention policies, and develop a plan to raise awareness, create a central website for the State of Hawaii to provide convenient access to testing, and work with local public schools across the State of Hawaii to produce public service announcements taking into account socioeconomic and multicultural differences; and

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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall meet at
2 least monthly from July 2012 to November 2012; and
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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall report its
5 findings and recommendations on diabetes prevention, including
6 any proposed legislation, to the legislature no later than
7 twenty days prior to the convening of the regular session each
8 year; and
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10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall explore
11 options to revise the current policies and procedures for
12 licensure and certification of new dialysis and diabetes
13 prevention centers, enacted by Medicare and Medicaid Services,
14 for the benefit of the people of Hawaii in need of dialysis
15 treatments; and
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17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
18 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to Hawaii's Congressional
19 delegation, the Governor of the State of Hawaii, the Director of
20 the State Department of Health, the Director of the State
21 Department of Human Services, the Director of the Office of
22 Hawaiian Affairs, the Director of the Department of Education,
23 the American Cancer Society, the Restaurant Association, the
24 Centers for Medicare and Medicaid, and the President of the
25 Hawaii Association of Health Plans.
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OFFERED BY:













