

MAR 08 2012

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE GOVERNOR TO APPOINT A LONG-TERM CARE COORDINATOR.

1 WHEREAS, Americans are living longer today than in the
2 past, but are often hindered with multiple, chronic health
3 conditions and greater rates of disability in old age; and
4 between 2007 and 2030, the population in this State aged eighty-
5 five and older, which has the greatest need for long-term care,
6 is projected to increase by almost two-thirds; and
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8 WHEREAS, the aging of the population in Hawaii guarantees
9 that there will be a greater need for long-term care in the
10 future than there is currently; and
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12 WHEREAS, despite the fact that long-term care is not
13 covered by Medicare or regular private health insurance,
14 according to a recent 2011 survey of Association of American
15 Retired Persons members in Hawaii, twenty-nine per cent of
16 respondents said they expected Medicare to pay for their long-
17 term care, if needed; and
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19 WHEREAS, the Long-Term Care Insurance Act, chapter 431:10H,
20 Hawaii Revised Statutes, was enacted in 1999 "to promote the
21 public interest, to promote the availability of long-term care
22 insurance policies, to protect applicants for long-term care
23 insurance, as defined, from unfair or deceptive sales or
24 enrollment practices, to establish standards for long-term care
25 insurance, to facilitate public understanding and comparison of
26 long-term care insurance policies, and to facilitate flexibility
27 and innovation in the development of long-term care insurance
28 coverage"; and
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30 WHEREAS, the Health Insurance Branch of the Insurance
31 Division enforces the provisions of the Long-Term Care Insurance
32 Act and receives inquiries and complaints pertaining to long-
33 term care; and
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1 WHEREAS, the Executive Office on Aging coordinates existing
2 long-term care supports and services through Aging and
3 Disability Resource Centers statewide, which are administered by
4 Area Agencies on Aging in each county and supported by federal
5 funds; and

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7 WHEREAS, Aging and Disability Resource Centers serve as
8 single points of entry to long-term services and supports system
9 for older adults, people with disabilities, family caregivers,
10 and providers; and

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12 WHEREAS, the federal Older Americans Act amendments of 1978
13 required each State to establish a Long-Term Care Ombudsman, and
14 the Legislature formally established the Office of the Long-Term
15 Care Ombudsman within the Executive Office on Aging in 2007; and

16
17 WHEREAS, the Office of the Long-Term Care Ombudsman
18 protects the health, safety, welfare, and rights of residents of
19 long-term care facilities in accordance with state and federal
20 law; and

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22 WHEREAS, the long-term care recipients in the State require
23 supports and services from various state and county agencies
24 that are mandated by state and federal laws, but these services
25 and supports can be difficult to access; and

26
27 WHEREAS, the designation of a long-term care coordinator,
28 similar to the Governor's Early Childhood Transformation
29 Coordinator, to coordinate programs affecting long-term care
30 services and supports would significantly improve the quality of
31 life for Hawaii's long-term care recipients, their caregivers,
32 and their families; now, therefore,

33
34 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-sixth
35 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2012, the
36 House of Representatives concurring, that the Governor is urged
37 to appoint a Long-term Care Coordinator to coordinate programs,
38 supports, and services to improve the quality of life for
39 Hawaii's long-term care recipients, their caregivers, and their
40 families; and

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42 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Long-term Care Coordinator
43 shall:

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- 1 (1) Recommend to the Governor strategies, including
2 legislation, to improve the quality of life for
3 Hawaii's long-term care recipients, their caregivers,
4 and their families; reduce the costs of long-term
5 care; and improve the organization and delivery of
6 long-term care supports and services;
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- 8 (2) Recommend, in consultation with the Insurance Division
9 of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs,
10 strategies to increase awareness of long-term care
11 insurance; and
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- 13 (3) Promote interagency cooperation among state and county
14 agencies responsible for long-term care supports and
15 services, including the Executive Office on Aging,
16 Department of Human Services, Department of Health,
17 Insurance Division of the Department of Commerce and
18 Consumer Affairs, and Area Agencies on Aging within
19 each county; and
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21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Long-Term Care Coordinator
22 may coordinate and consult with existing and future boards, task
23 forces, and councils whose purposes are to support programs that
24 relate to long-term care supports and services; and
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26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Long-Term Care Coordinator
27 may convene working groups comprised of but not limited to long-
28 term care recipients, their families, caregivers, and support
29 groups; federal, state, and county government staff; and
30 interested stakeholders in the private sector to ensure that the
31 recommendations developed achieve the goals of this Concurrent
32 Resolution; and
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34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
35 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Director
36 of the Executive Office on Aging, Director of Human Services,
37 Director of Health, Insurance Commissioner, County Executive of
38 the Kauai Agency on Elder Affairs, County Executive of the City
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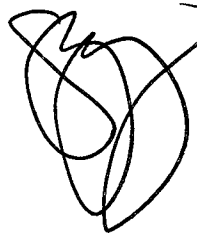
S.C.R. NO. 69

1 and County of Honolulu Elderly Affairs Division, County
 2 Executive of the Maui County Office on Aging, and Director of
 3 the Hawaii County Office of Aging.
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