

MAR 13 2013

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# SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING CONSIDERATION OF MEDICAID EXPANSION AS A VIABLE SOLUTION  
TO PROVIDE INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR HAWAII RESIDENTS WITH  
INCOME BETWEEN ONE HUNDRED THIRTY-THREE PERCENT AND TWO  
HUNDRED PERCENT OF THE FEDERAL POVERTY LEVEL.

1           WHEREAS, the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act  
2 (Public Law 111-148) was enacted by the United States Congress  
3 on March 30, 2010, together with the Health Care and Education  
4 Reconciliation Act of 2010 (Public Law 111-152); and

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6           WHEREAS, on July 1, 2012, individuals in Hawaii earning  
7 more than one hundred thirty-three percent of the federal  
8 poverty level were dropped from Medicaid coverage and left  
9 without health insurance; and

10  
11           WHEREAS, individuals and families with incomes between one  
12 hundred thirty-three percent and two hundred percent of the  
13 federal poverty level, also known as the "gap group," are  
14 working poor and unlikely to afford the purchase of health  
15 insurance through the Hawaii Health Connector; and

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17           WHEREAS, the health care needs of the gap group and low-  
18 income earners in Hawaii are more complex than higher wage  
19 earners and often require multiple support systems more aligned  
20 with a Medicaid benefit package than a commercial insurance  
21 benefit package; and

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23           WHEREAS, patients in the gap group often seek care at  
24 community health centers that provide fully integrated health  
25 care homes that include the array of preventive, medical,  
26 primary, dental, behavioral, social, and enabling services that  
27 are needed to attain favorable outcomes for patients with  
28 complex and interrelated medical and social challenges; and

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30           WHEREAS, the Compacts of Free Association population, which  
31 the federal government has not supported under the Medicaid



1 program, has very few individuals in the gap group and therefore  
2 will not represent an added cost to the state general fund; and  
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4 WHEREAS, the federal government will support one hundred  
5 percent of the Medicaid expansion for the gap group; and  
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7 WHEREAS, the two predominant options for Hawaii to pursue  
8 in offering health care coverage for individuals earning more  
9 than one hundred thirty-three percent of the federal poverty  
10 level are expansion of Medicaid or the Hawaii Health Connector;  
11 now, therefore,  
12

13 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-seventh  
14 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2013, the  
15 House of Representatives concurring, that this body urges  
16 consideration of Medicaid expansion as a viable solution to  
17 provide insurance coverage for Hawaii residents with income  
18 between one hundred thirty-three percent and two hundred percent  
19 of the federal poverty level; and  
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21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
22 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Director  
23 of Health, Director of Human Services, Director of Commerce and  
24 Consumer Affairs, Insurance Commissioner, and Executive Director  
25 of the Hawaii Health Connector.  
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27  
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OFFERED BY: John M.  
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