

JAN 23 2014

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE AUDITOR TO ASSESS THE PROBABLE EFFECTS OF
LICENSING AND REGULATING HOME BIRTH PROVIDERS.

1 WHEREAS, no licensure, certification, or registration of
2 home birth providers exists in Hawaii; and
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4 WHEREAS, Hawaii currently has no regulations for home birth
5 safety; no educational requirements for home birth providers;
6 and no requirements to inform mothers about the possible risks
7 of home birth, in particular the risks of a high risk pregnancy
8 home birth; and
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10 WHEREAS, no safety protocols exist for the selection of
11 candidates for planned home birth and the transfer of care or
12 referral from home birth provider to the hospital or physician;
13 and
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15 WHEREAS, national data reports a two to three-fold
16 increased risk of neonatal mortality with planned home birth
17 versus hospital birth, and that multiple preventable neonatal
18 deaths have occurred in Hawaii; and
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20 WHEREAS, data further shows an increased risk of neonatal
21 morbidity, including low Apgar scores and serious neurologic
22 problems associated with planned home birth versus hospital
23 birth; and
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25 WHEREAS, S.B. No. (Regular Session of 2014) mandates
26 licensing and regulatory controls for home birth safety
27 providers by establishing a home birth safety board for
28 licensure; requiring home birth providers to meet minimum
29 educational and training requirements for midwives established
30 by the American Midwifery Certification Board; establishing
31 protocols for home birth safety; requiring collection of home
32 birth data; and requiring that home birth providers fully inform



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1 their clients regarding their planned home birth so that they
2 may make an informed decision; and

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4 WHEREAS, the Legislature believes that the licensing and
5 regulation of home birth providers, as provided in S.B. No.
6 (Regular Session of 2014), will substantially improve home
7 birth safety; now, therefore,

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9 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-seventh
10 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2014, the
11 House of Representatives concurring, that the Auditor is
12 requested to conduct an impact assessment report pursuant to
13 section 26H-6, Hawaii Revised Statutes, of the probable effects
14 of licensing and regulating home birth providers and assess
15 whether it is consistent with policies set forth in section
16 26H-2, Hawaii Revised Statutes; and

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18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Auditor is requested to
19 submit findings and recommendations to the Legislature,
20 including any necessary implementing legislation, no later than
21 twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of
22 2015; and

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24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
25 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Auditor and Director
26 of Health.

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29 OFFERED BY: John Mearns

