

MAR 07 2014

SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII JOHN A. BURNS SCHOOL OF
MEDICINE TO ESTABLISH A NATIVE HAWAIIAN HEALTH TASK FORCE.

1 WHEREAS, obesity and chronic diseases, such as diabetes and
2 heart disease, disproportionately affect Native Hawaiians; and
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4 WHEREAS, in order to address the health of indigenous
5 people, Hawaii's policies, programs, and services must focus on
6 economic and social conditions that influence group differences
7 in health status; and
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9 WHEREAS, the Department of Native Hawaiian Health, as part
10 of the University of Hawaii's John A. Burns School of Medicine,
11 recently completed a two-year study entitled "Assessment and
12 Priorities for Health and Well-Being in Native Hawaiians and
13 Other Pacific Peoples"; and
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15 WHEREAS, these findings were presented to a joint
16 legislative committee on September 23, 2013, along with
17 recommendations and priorities to improve the health and
18 well-being of the State's indigenous and Pacific Islander
19 populations; and
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21 WHEREAS, the study also detailed successful programs that
22 have led to reduced risk factors for diabetes, heart disease,
23 and stroke, and these programs include weight and blood pressure
24 management; and
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26 WHEREAS, it is necessary to address the findings and
27 recommendations of the Department of Native Hawaiian Health's
28 study by creating a task force to formulate policies and
29 procedures to eliminate the disproportionate impact of the
30 social determinants of health and chronic disease on all
31 individuals, with particular focus on Native Hawaiians and other
32 Pacific peoples; now, therefore,
33

34 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-seventh
35 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2014,
36 that the University of Hawaii's John A. Burns School of Medicine



1 is urged to establish a Native Hawaiian Health Task Force to be
2 administratively attached to the University of Hawaii's John A.
3 Burns School of Medicine; and

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5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is urged to
6 include:

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8 (1) The Chair of the Department of Native Hawaiian Health
9 of the John A. Burns School of Medicine, or the
10 Chair's designee;
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12 (2) The Director of Health, or the Director's designee;
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14 (3) The Chief Executive Officer of the Office of Hawaiian
15 Affairs, or the Chief Executive Officer's designee;
16 and
17
18 (4) Up to twenty additional task force members with
19 demonstrated interest in and backgrounds beneficial to
20 assisting the functions of the task force, including
21 members with extensive knowledge, expertise, or
22 experience in areas such as Native Hawaiian health or
23 health care, and Native Hawaiian health care
24 consumers, to be appointed by the Chair of the
25 Department of Native Hawaiian Health of the John A.
26 Burns School of Medicine; and
27

28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Native Hawaiian Health Task
29 Force is requested to:

- 30
31 (1) Create data sharing policies between state agencies to
32 improve access for Native Hawaiian and other Pacific
33 peoples;
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35 (2) Propose cost-effective improvements to the
36 environments where Native Hawaiians and other Pacific
37 peoples live, learn, work, and play;
38
39 (3) Propose legislation to address social determinants of
40 health in Hawaii;
41
42 (4) Raise awareness and propose programs to advance health
43 equity;
44



- 1 (5) Propose programs and legislative action that will
- 2 address barriers to access to health care;
- 3
- 4 (6) Guide the use of existing collaborations, systems, and
- 5 partnerships to leverage resources and maximize
- 6 outcomes;
- 7
- 8 (7) Propose activities that will support community
- 9 organizations promoting their own health; and
- 10
- 11 (8) Propose initiatives that will increase preventive
- 12 services available in Native Hawaiian communities; and
- 13

14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Native Hawaiian Health Task
 15 Force is requested to report its findings and recommendations,
 16 including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later
 17 than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session
 18 of 2016; and

19
 20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 21 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Health, Chief
 22 Executive Officer of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, and Chair
 23 of the Department of Native Hawaiian Health of the University of
 24 Hawaii John A. Burns School of Medicine.

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OFFERED BY: *Director Kahoala*

Melanie

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John