

MAR 10 2017

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE CONVENING OF A WORKING GROUP RELATING TO COMPLEX PATIENTS.

1 WHEREAS, waitlisted patients are hospitalized individuals
2 who have recovered sufficiently to no longer need the acute
3 level of care that a hospital provides but who cannot be
4 transferred to a long-term care facility because of a complex
5 medical or behavioral health need that requires more intensive
6 services; and
7

8 WHEREAS, the intensive services needed by these patients
9 are often too costly for long-term care facilities to provide
10 because of the wide gap between cost of care and the
11 reimbursement received from Medicaid, so patients remain in the
12 hospital for many weeks or months after the appropriate date of
13 discharge from an acute-level facility; and
14

15 WHEREAS, according to a 2014 report, there were 7,055
16 waitlisted patients in Hawaii hospitals in 2011, requiring care
17 at an average cost of \$1,404 per day and resulting in a net
18 annual loss to hospitals of approximately \$62,700,000; and
19

20 WHEREAS, providing an add-on payment to the base Medicaid
21 reimbursement rates that long-term care facilities receive for
22 care of these patients, as 38 other states already do, will
23 incentivize their transfer from the hospital to a more
24 appropriate, lower-cost setting of care; and
25

26 WHEREAS, without a financial incentive to assume care of
27 individuals with complex medical issues, the reluctance of long-
28 term care facilities to take on these patients after hospital
29 discharge will likely worsen since the level of reimbursement
30 will increasingly fall short of the cost of providing needed
31 services; and



1 WHEREAS, moving waitlisted patients into long-term care
2 facilities will free beds for access by patients who actually
3 need acute care services and will allow acute care facilities to
4 realize their full and appropriate revenue potential by
5 providing acute care services, which are reimbursed at a higher
6 rate, while freeing them from the obligation to provide lower-
7 reimbursement, long-term care services; now, therefore,

8
9 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-ninth
10 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2017, the
11 House of Representatives concurring, that the MedQUEST
12 Administrator is requested to convene a working group to
13 evaluate the issue of complex patients who are waitlisted in
14 hospitals because of medical or behavioral health issues and to
15 consider solutions that include incentive or add-on payments to
16 encourage their transfer out of hospitals and into more
17 appropriate settings; and

18
19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the MedQUEST Administrator is
20 requested to serve as chair of the working group and to invite
21 the participation of one representative from each of the
22 following:

- 23
24 (1) The Department of Human Services;
25
26 (2) Healthcare Association of Hawaii;
27
28 (3) A hospital or health care system from each county;
29
30 (4) A skilled nursing facility from each county;
31
32 (5) Hawaii Medical Association; and
33
34 (6) Hawaii Association of Health Plans; and

35
36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested
37 to submit a report of findings and recommendations, including
38 any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than 20
39 days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2018; and



S.C.R. NO. 106

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 2 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Human
 3 Services; MedQUEST Administrator, President and CEO of
 4 Healthcare Association of Hawaii; Chief Executive Officer of
 5 Hawaii Health Systems Corporation; President of Hawaii Medical
 6 Association; and President of Hawaii Association of Health
 7 Plans.

8
 9
 10

OFFERED BY:

Alan Gosh
Ross E. Allen
Michael J. ...
...
...

Rosalyn H. Baker
Will Eyo
Michelle Sudani
Anna Mercaderi
Breene ...
...
...
...
...
...

