HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CREATE A WORKING GROUP TO STUDY UNLICENSED CARE FACILITY ISSUES.

WHEREAS, Hawaii is one of the most expensive states for elder care; and

WHEREAS, due to the high cost of elder care, Hawaii residents often face difficult economic decisions when choosing care for elderly or vulnerable adults; and

WHEREAS, it is important to protect the health, safety, civil rights, and rights of choice for elderly or vulnerable adults who are receiving home health care or home care in care facilities or residences; and

WHEREAS, unlicensed care facilities have the potential to be a health risk to elderly or vulnerable adults, and the issue requires further investigation and study in order to protect the consumer interest; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-ninth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2018, the Senate concurring, that the Director of Health is requested to convene a working group to study issues related to unlicensed care facilities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Director of Health or the Director's designee is requested to convene the first meeting of the working group no later than ninety days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2019, and the working group is requested to elect a chairperson from among its members; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group comprise the following members:

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| 1 | | | |
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| 2 | | (1) | The Director of Health or the Director's designee; |
| 3 4 5 | | (2) | A representative of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs; |
| 6 7 8 9 | | (3) | A representative of the American Association of Retired Persons; |
| 10 11 12 13 | | (4) | A representative of an advocacy group for the elderly that is not the American Association of Retired Persons; |
| 14 15 16 | | (5) | A representative of an advocacy group for unlicensed care facilities; and |
| 17 18 19 | | (6) | A representative of an advocacy group for licensed care facilities; and |
| 20 21 22 | to: | BE I | T FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested |
| 23 24 | | (1) | Study the issue of ensuring the safety of elderly or vulnerable adults in care facilities; |
| 25 26 27 28 | | (2) | Study the issue of how long it takes for the Department of Health to process care home licensure applications; |
| 29 30 31 32 | | (3) | Define what a "care home" is and then differentiate those facilities from all other care facilities; |
| 33 34 35 36 | | (4) | Study issues relating to investigating, including gaining entry into, a care home when the Department of Health receives a complaint about the care home; |
| 37 38 39 | | (5) | Study the issue of ensuring the safety of elderly or vulnerable adults during a transfer from one care facility to another care facility; |
| 40 41 42 | | (6) | Discuss the establishment of a "quality assurance committee" for care facilities to monitor and evaluate |

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| 1 2 3 | | elderly or vulnerable adult care and to identify, study, and correct deficiencies in elderly or vulnerable adult care; | |
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| 4 5 | (7) | Define what constitutes an "environment of care" and "living environment"; and | |
| 6 7 | | "IIVING environment"; and | |
| 8 9 | (8) | Study how to differentiate levels of care; and | |
| 10 11 | BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Health shall provide administrative support for the working group; and | | |
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| 13 14 | BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the chairperson of the working group shall provide written notice of the convening of the | | |
| 15 16 | working group to the Chairpersons of the House and Senate Standing Committees with primary jurisdiction over consumer | | |
| 17 | protection issues; and | | |
| 18 19 | BE I' | T FURTHER RESOLVED that no later than twenty days prior | |
| 20 | to the convening of the Regular Session of 2020, the working group shall submit a report that includes its findings and | | |
| 21 22 | recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the | | |
| 23 24 | Legislatu | re; and | |
| 25 26 27 28 | Concurrenthe Direc | T FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this t Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Health, tor of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, and the American on of Retired Persons. | |
| 29 30 31 | | OFFERED BY: | |
| | | John M. Marie | |

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