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## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES TO CONDUCT A FEASIBILITY STUDY REGARDING THE EXPANSION OF THE MAXIMUM NUMBER OF CHILDREN CARED FOR IN A STATE-LICENSED FAMILY CHILD CARE HOME FROM SIX CHILDREN TO TEN CHILDREN.

1           WHEREAS, a strong early childhood care system is essential  
2 to the well-being of Hawaii's young children, their families,  
3 and the community; and  
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5           WHEREAS, the Governor has announced as one of his  
6 Administration's initiatives the creation of a universal  
7 statewide high-quality public preschool system; and  
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9           WHEREAS, public preschool will help alleviate some of the  
10 child care needs for families in the State, but realizing this  
11 vision will take significant time and planning; and  
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13           WHEREAS, Hawaii's current shortfall of thirty thousand  
14 licensed child care slots means nearly half of the State's  
15 children under the age of six lack access to quality, affordable  
16 child care; and  
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18           WHEREAS, Hawaii ranks as the least affordable state in the  
19 nation for center-based child care; and  
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21           WHEREAS, the average monthly cost for full-time child care  
22 is about \$9,500 per child in child care centers and \$7,800 per  
23 child in family childcare homes; and  
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25           WHEREAS, about two thousand four hundred children in the  
26 State receive care at a family childcare home, which is a  
27 private residence where care is provided to a limited number of  
28 children; and  
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1 WHEREAS, many families prefer the smaller, more flexible,  
2 and more affordable home-like environment provided by family  
3 childcare homes, especially for infants and toddlers; and  
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5 WHEREAS, nearly one in ten of all child care slots in the  
6 State regulated by the Department of Human Services are in a  
7 family child care home; and  
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9 WHEREAS, in other states, such as Oregon, expanded home-  
10 based child care and education has been proven to contribute  
11 significantly to the overall education and well-being of  
12 children; and  
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14 WHEREAS, increasing the maximum number of children  
15 authorized to be cared for in a family child care home would  
16 make a significant difference to many families in the State who  
17 struggle with unavailable or unaffordable child care; now,  
18 therefore,  
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20 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
21 Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of  
22 2019, the Senate concurring, that the Department of Human  
23 Services is requested to conduct a feasibility study regarding  
24 the expansion of the maximum number of children cared for in a  
25 state-licensed family child care home from the present maximum  
26 of six children to a maximum of ten children; and  
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28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Department of Human Services is  
29 requested to submit a report to the Legislature of its findings  
30 and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, no  
31 later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular  
32 Session of 2020; and  
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34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
35 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor and  
36 Director of Human Services.  
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OFFERED BY: *James S. King*

MAR 08 2019

